
INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTION

Command Name: U.S. Department of Transportation OIG

Case Number: I19G0060500

Interviewee's Name: Adam Ball

Identification of Investigator(s): Special Agent Steven Larson and Special Agent Douglas Smith

Date of Interview: July 24, 2019 and July 25, 2019

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July 24 and 25, 2019

1 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Today's date is July 24,
2 2019. The subsequent recording will occur on Thursday, July 25
3 and will be between Special Agents Steven Larson and Douglas
4 Smith and Adam Ball. All right. Will be I just want to let,
5 uh, let, uh, our coworkers know we're in talking.

6 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay.

7 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I'll be right back. Just
8 FYI, so I am, uh, I am talking [inaudible 1:15].

9 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay.

10 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Thanks Adam. All right.
11 Shut that, so we've got some [inaudible 0:] time. Um, as we said
12 I'm Steve Larson with the FBI. This will let you know who I am.
13 Uh, just out of [inaudible 1:45] do you have any idea why we'll
14 be here today or --

15 MR. ADAM BALL: -- No, [inaudible 1:53].

16 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

17 MR. ADAM BALL: Should -- should we have legal counsel?

18 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well like I said we -- I
19 mean, you know, got [inaudible 2:00], you guys [inaudible 2:03]
20 um, that's going to be up to you, but -- but that -- I mean with
21 that said, I mean depending on, you know, if [inaudible 2:13]
22 you can say that. But, uh, just to kind of repeat what you've
23 may have already heard [inaudible 2:22], I mean our point today

July 24 and 25, 2019

24 is just to try to get some answers. Uh, nobody's under arrest.

25 Nobody's getting cuffs, nothing like that.

26 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

27 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, and, uh, as far as that
28 goes to it, if -- if you wanted to start answering questions,
29 talking to us, that's fine and then if -- if you don't want to
30 answer questions at some point, I mean that's -- that's part of
31 your right too.

32 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

33 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So we'll -- I mean we'll
34 respect that as your decision, but I mean just as much as we
35 want [inaudible 2:50].

36 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right, um, I guess -- I
37 guess just to get -- get the ball rolling, uh, Adam, um, what --
38 what is your role here at, uh, this is Survey Solutions,
39 correct, Incorporated? What -- what is your position? What is
40 your role?

41 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm, uh, I'm a project engineer. I'm just
42 in charge of, um, inspections [inaudible 3:18]. Um, and, um,
43 designs. We don't do a ton of designs, but, um, design
44 oversight, um, I'm trying to think, what else. [inaudible 3:46].

45 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Anything with
46 engineering?

July 24 and 25, 2019

47 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 3:55].

48 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Do you have, uh, what
49 -- are you a -- an owner of the company?

50 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

51 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: No. You have no ownership
52 interest? Okay.

53 MR. ADAM BALL: Not in SSI, no.

54 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Not SSI. Do you have
55 ownership interest in -- in other companies?

56 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I -- I do have, um, ownership in, uh,
57 a company called Southfield IT Group.

58 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Southfield IT Group. Okay.
59 What does Southfield IT Group what -- what do they do?

60 MR. ADAM BALL: They're basically a, um, you know, a -- a,
61 um, a, um, a memory, uh, a data storage, you know, IT -- IT
62 complete with data storage essentially.

63 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: IT company with -- with data
64 storage. Okay, um, are they affiliated with SSI in any way?

65 MR. ADAM BALL: We do business with SSI.

66 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You -- you do business with --
67 and when you say we, you're -- you're speaking as Southfield --

68 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

69 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- IT Group?

July 24 and 25, 2019

70 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

71 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Where -- where is
72 Southfield IT Group located?

73 MR. ADAM BALL: It's -- it's based out of my -- my home.

74 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Based out of your home in --

75 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Saginaw.

76 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Saginaw?

77 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

78 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

79 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean that's where the -- the LLC was, you
80 know, the LLC was associate with essentially.

81 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Like -- like headquartered?

82 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. I mean, you know, when you -- when
83 you set up an LLC you've got to have a, uh, an address where the
84 tax forms go to and --

85 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Mm-hm.

86 MR. ADAM BALL: -- and all that --

87 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh --

88 MR. ADAM BALL: -- stuff.

89 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- okay.

90 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, so -- so your address
91 would be like the, uh, uh, the registered agent I think is what
92 they call it? Something like that.

July 24 and 25, 2019

93 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so.

94 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

95 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh okay. Um, are -- are you
96 the -- the sole owner of, uh, of the company?

97 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 6:03] keep talking, it's one
98 thing I need to do. [inaudible 6:10].

99 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Alrighty - alrighty. Um, are
100 you the -- the sole owner of, uh, Southfield?

101 MR. ADAM BALL: My -- my wife was involved also.

102 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Your -- your wife is
103 involved. And -- and who is your wife?

104 MR. ADAM BALL: Sarah -- Sarah Ball.

105 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Sarah Ball. Okay. So you
106 and Sarah own, uh, Southfield IT Group?

107 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

108 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, any other
109 employees?

110 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

111 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: There -- there -- there are
112 no other employees?

113 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

114 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. How -- how long have
115 you owned, uh, Southfield IT Group?

July 24 and 25, 2019

116 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't remember. Probably about three
117 years.

118 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Three years. Was it, um,
119 ever called anything -- any -- any other than Southfield IT
120 Group?

121 MR. ADAM BALL: Yep. Yep. I originally started a National
122 Elevation Certificates.

123 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. What was National
124 Elevation Certificates?

125 MR. ADAM BALL: For a while there -- there was a, uh, a
126 federal push for flood insurance, um, I'm going to say about
127 three - three or four years ago there was a -- there was a big
128 push to get this nationwide flood insurance, um, thing started
129 and in an attempt to start teaming on that, we thought -- we
130 thought it would be a, uh, um, a good market, you know, to hit,
131 so we started a company, you know, called National Relationship.
132 [sic 7:58]. It's LLC. Well that dumped thing fell flat on its
133 face. We got zero business out of that, I remember, but we
134 already had the business in place, and we just kept it in place,
135 whatever. And then, um, an opportunity came up to, um, create a
136 more of an IT group, so instead of having to start a whole
137 brand-new LLC for that, I did a, uh, a DBA --

138 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- To do --

July 24 and 25, 2019

139 MR. ADAM BALL: -- you know, doing --

140 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- business as.

141 MR. ADAM BALL: Southfield IT Group instead.

142 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

143 MR. ADAM BALL: So I guess technically Southfield IT Group

144 is not its own standalone --

145 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- It's -- it's --

146 MR. ADAM BALL: -- LLC, it's -- it's basically a National

147 Elevation Certificates --

148 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Oh --

149 MR. ADAM BALL: -- doing business as --

150 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- As --

151 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Southfield --

152 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Southfield IT Group, okay,

153 but the business I guess focus would be different than what

154 National Elevation --

155 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

156 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- was initiated at.

157 MR. ADAM BALL: Right.

158 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Well, um, just out of

159 curiosity what's your background in IT?

160 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't have any of it.

July 24 and 25, 2019

161 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You don't have any. Okay.

162 What -- what about your wife? What's her background in IT?

163 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 9:14].

164 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um, a lot?

165 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

166 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: None? Zero? Okay. All

167 right. Um, and as you said the two of you are the only

168 employees?

169 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

170 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And you do business

171 with Survey Solutions?

172 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

173 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And what -- what -- what --

174 what services do you provide SSI?

175 MR. ADAM BALL: I think we're kinda starting to get in the

176 area - I would prefer not to even get into it, um, I -- I --

177 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Well Adam, we're, you

178 know, we're -- we're -- we're -- we're here. This is an

179 opportunity for you to explain a few things. Um, this -- I mean

180 granted it, this isn't a just a casual conversation over -- over

181 coffee, but I -- I've been doing this for -- for 20 years.

182 Doug's been doing this for 10 years. And -- and I'm going to --

183 I'm going to shoot straight with you, um, you -- you know the

July 24 and 25, 2019

184 best thing you can do at this point is -- is -- is get ahead of
185 this and, uh, you know, talk to us and answer -- answer some
186 questions here. Um, so I guess that's --

187 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Well, what was the question again?

188 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Just kind of what, uh, what
189 services you provide or what, uh, what -- what, uh, what
190 Southfield does.

191 MR. ADAM BALL: Again it's a -- basically a data storage.
192 A lot of the scan work that SSI does is very memory intensive,
193 they got this mobile scanner basically. It basically drive at
194 highway speeds and it's got laser beams that shoot everywhere
being issued
195 everywhere and collects data. The gigabytes, the terabytes and
196 all that stuff, whatever. So Southfield IT Group was created,
197 the entity that holds the memory to the head essentially.

198 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Holds as a side data storage?

199 MR. ADAM BALL: Data storage.

200 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Okay, how much --
201 what's the -- geez, Doug is more, uh, a computer guy than I am,
202 but what -- what would you say what -- what kind of -- I mean
203 for -- for all of that data storage, um, you probably need like
204 what, servers or a lot of hardware somewhere, right?

205 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

206 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Where's that -- where's that
207 maintained?

208 MR. ADAM BALL: I think most of it is right here.

209 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You -- you think most of it's
210 right here?

211 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, sir, so service I know
212 stuff can go virtual, so like I didn't know, uh, some people
213 like subcontracted with like Amazon or other warehouse type
storage
214 stuff that is stored offsite or -- or at least backed up. Some
215 people have created a whole method of backup and stuff onsite,
216 um, when -- so when you say here like backed up in here or here
217 it's -- like the tower, like the racks and stuff there are here?

218 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. I think some are, some of the racks
219 are back there. I do.

220 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

221 MR. ADAM BALL: You can probably tell I'm not as familiar
222 with it as I should be or whatever, but I [inaudible 12:49] --

223 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Well if --

224 MR. ADAM BALL: -- I don't [inaudible 12:49] a lot of SSI
225 employees. Kind of like when you're leasing a car you get from
226 Hertz but --

227 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Sure. --

July 24 and 25, 2019

228 MR. ADAM BALL: -- but the -- the staff of the company that
229 actually has possession of the -- the vehicle does the vast
230 majority of [inaudible 13:11] and the saving and the [inaudible
231 13:15].

232 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well, look, let's use an example
233 Richard -- Richard Branson doesn't fly his virgin mobile planes.
234 He doesn't necessarily operate his virgin mobile phones and all
235 that kind of stuff. Like if -- clearly he's got other people
236 that -- that -- that do that stuff and he doesn't have to be the
237 most tech savvy or the best pilot to, you know, to own and
238 operate his businesses. So, um, no, we -- we totally get that.
239 That makes sense. If it's -- if it's here and if the data is
240 coming in here, that makes sense to have it here. I'm assuming
241 it's easier to -- to, you know, upload here, access here.

242 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: How much storage capacity do
243 you supply SSI?

244 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I couldn't tell you.

245 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You don't know? Okay.

246 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know what to tell you, but I don't
247 know what the latest acronym is for terabyte or whatever, but I
248 know it's a lot.

249 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, let's see.

July 24 and 25, 2019

250 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: While -- while he's looking
251 over some papers there, uh, we actually have some really easy
252 questions that we kind of skipped over. Um, we -- as -- as the
253 federal government, my last name is Smith right, so no one
254 believes who I am, so we're always trying to make sure we are
255 who we say we are, um, can I confirm or -- or have your, uh,
256 date of birth?

257 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. It's [REDACTED], 1977.

258 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. Um, what's a, uh, um,
259 what's your main residence?

260 MR. ADAM BALL: [REDACTED] --

261 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

262 MR. ADAM BALL: [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Saginaw, 48609.

263 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, since you had kind of
264 mentioned that you would be the registered agent for Southfield,
265 that -- that would be Southfield's --

266 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, I think we, uh, in fact I know with
267 National Elevation Certificates we registered them in Wyoming.

268 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Oh okay. And then the mail
269 just is forwarded or whatever?

270 MR. ADAM BALL: We had it processed up there. The -- the
271 intent was our competitors at the time. We did not want them to
272 know --

July 24 and 25, 2019

273 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Mm-hm.

274 MR. ADAM BALL: -- who we were or what we were involved
275 [inaudible 15:26]. So we registered [inaudible 15:30] to
276 basically, I forget what it is, the actual owner doesn't have
277 to sign the paper. You can have a registered agent out there do
278 it for you.

279 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah.

280 MR. ADAM BALL: So in an attempt to have somewhat a veil to
281 our [inaudible 15:46] once a year, I forget what the name of the
282 corporate or the company is, but they basically send you a
283 letter and say, hey, do you want us to --

284 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Re --

285 MR. ADAM BALL: -- refile --

286 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- for the --

287 MR. ADAM BALL: -- file for the new year annually report
288 for you or whatever for \$100. So we did that.

289 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So I don't -- I don't
290 practice law in this role, but I did go to law school and so I'm
291 -- I'm totally familiar with, you know, like business and all
292 that. Like sometimes it's more friendly when incorporate in
293 some state and you do have to have some agent out there, you
294 know, forward things --

295 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Yeah. --

July 24 and 25, 2019

296 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- so yeah. You know that's
297 -- that's, uh, that's perfectly fine. What's a, um, um, a good
298 phone number for you too?

299 MR. ADAM BALL: 989 --

300 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Okay. --

301 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 16:30] 4-8-4 --

302 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Okay. --

303 MR. ADAM BALL: -- 0-3-5-8.

304 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Uh, is that a cell a home?

305 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah, that's this phone right here.

306 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. That's uh --

307 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Okay. --

308 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- that's all I had. If you
309 --

310 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Okay. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.
311 --

312 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- [inaudible 16:44] --

313 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah, I just wanted to,
314 uh, again kind of get a better understanding of, um, Southfield
315 IT Group. You provide SSI most of the storage capability for
316 your mobile surveying --

317 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 17:04] --

318 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- equipment?

July 24 and 25, 2019

319 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. Yeah.

320 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Okay, so in addition
321 to SSI, what other clients do you have?

322 MR. ADAM BALL: Zero.

323 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Zero clients other than SSI?

324 MR. ADAM BALL: Sure.

325 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Do you know Andrew is
326 it Semenchuk?

327 MR. ADAM BALL: [NON-VERBAL RESPONSE]

328 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. What -- what is his
329 role in SSI or Southfield IT Group?

330 MR. ADAM BALL: He was the former owner of SSI.

331 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Former owner of SSI.

332 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Uh, you say -- you say former
333 is that like recent, years ago?

334 MR. ADAM BALL: December 31 it basically switched.

335 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

336 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Jeff. Jeff is now the owner.

337 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Jeffrey who?

338 MR. ADAM BALL: Bartlett.

339 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Jeff Bartlett now owns SSI?

340 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

July 24 and 25, 2019

341 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And again you have no
342 ownership interest in SSI?

343 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

344 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well here's one of the
345 things, Andrew Semenchuk, um, asserted to, um, Michigan, uh, DOT
346 auditors that, um, Southfield IT Group was located in
347 Southfield, Michigan. Any reason that would have occurred?

348 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I think there is one of our -- our IT
349 servers I think is down there somewhere. I couldn't even tell
350 you where it's at.

351 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. I -- I -- I guess I'm
352 -- I'm -- I'm confused. You -- you're only the owner -- you're
353 the only employee of Southfield IT Group other than your wife,
354 correct?

355 MR. ADAM BALL: [NON-VERBAL ANSWER].

356 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So would your wife know where
357 this server is in Southfield?

358 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

359 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You -- do you pay any storage
360 fees for this, uh --

361 MR. ADAM BALL: I think we do have to pay for [inaudible
362 19:36] line or -- or something like that. I'm not positive

July 24 and 25, 2019

363 exactly how it works. We [inaudible 19:40] -- I don't know how
364 it works.

365 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Does, uh, is -- is that
366 convenient for SSI to be there? Like we had kind of discussed
367 accessing if they're uploading, downloading whatever data?

368 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah, I'm -- I'm pretty sure. He's, he's
369 the one who set it up it was a high-speed hub of data transfer
370 of -- of some sort that -- that advocated the stuff to have at
371 the time. I -- I don't know about the inner workings of it
372 though. I don't.

373 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Do, um, if -- if it was
374 [inaudible 20:32] sometimes, is that like some direction you would
have gotten --
375 same production you would have gotten from either -- either
376 Andrew or -- or Jeff or someone here to say, you know, hey, it
377 would be really cool for you to do this here. Can -- can you
378 set it up or -- or -- or do you take care of it? Like how -- is
379 that how it works or how -- I'm -- like I'm assuming if you're
380 in a store to set it up that you'd have to, uh, you'd have to
381 pay for it at least or -- or authorize it or something. Um, but
382 makes sense too that if SSI is your client decided on the client
that that's kind of what
383 they want, you're going to try to cater to them.

July 24 and 25, 2019

384 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. I'm -- I'm sure it was something
385 they had asked for. It's been a long [inaudible 21:08], I don't
386 remember exactly how the darn thing even started.

387 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

388 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I guess is there --

389 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Well, I just going to say
390 while we -- while he was looking over his notes there, do you --
391 at this point

391 do you have any questions for us?

392 MR ADAM BALL: I don't. I don't really. You know, I'm --
393 I'm assuming this is DOT related.

394 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and we're -- we're --
395 we're trying -- I'm -- I'm just trying to wrap my head around,
396 um, Southfield IT Group because I'm going to -- I'm going to be
397 honest with you. We've -- we've looked at financials.

398 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

399 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

400 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- I was going to say he said
401 as much when he

401 said he had the, uh, [inaudible 22:11] made, right?

402 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

403 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So.

404 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So I mean we -- we've --
405 we've -- we're not -- we're not the case agents on this but

July 24 and 25, 2019

406 there's an awful lot of information that has been compiled prior
407 to our arrival today.

408 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm sure. Okay.

409 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and Adam I'm -- I'm
410 going to just shoot straight with you. Like -- like -- like --
411 like I said in the beginning I was going to -- I mean I -- it --
412 it looks to me like Southfield IT Group is nothing more than --
413 than a shell company. Would -- would you concur with that?

414 MR. ADAM BALL: Probably. Yeah.

415 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You -- you said probably.
416 Could -- you're in -- you're in agreement, correct?

417 MR. ADAM BALL: I would have to be, yeah.

418 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. All right. That's --
419 that's one hurdle we had to -- we had to clear, and we've
420 cleared it. Okay. So I guess let's -- let's just jump right
421 into why was the shell company established?

422 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I mean are we -- are we getting into
423 an area where I don't know -- I don't know. I mean I --

424 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Let -- let -- again let's
425 -- let's -- let's -- let's continue, why -- why was Southfield
426 IT Group established? It's obvious, I mean based on what you've
427 told us, that you don't have much of an IT background and you've

July 24 and 25, 2019

428 told me the only two employees are you and your wife and that
429 your only clients are SSI.

430 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. Yeah.

431 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So let's -- let's -- let's
432 finish the explanation here. Why was it set up? Who decided to
433 set it up? Who was involved? Etc. Etc.

434 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I don't even know if I can get into
435 that.

436 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Let me -- let me -- let me
437 ask you kind of a preceding question about that, um, and -- and
438 we can see it's tough. This is -- this is not -- like we've
439 kind of discussed briefly while -- while we were setting things up
440 in the room here that, uh, you know, not a normal day. Not an
441 easy thing to go through. Um, because you're not used to
442 someone showing up and asking you these kinds of things. We did
443 say thought that we -- we assumed you would have questions and we
444 had

445 questions, so as -- as -- as we go down that path, is there
446 anything we can answer that would -- that would, uh, that would
447 help you? I mean if you're giving us information that's helping
448 us, is there anything we can do to help you get through that?

449 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I mean you -- it -- Adam,
450 you've -- you've -- you've been -- so far you've been -- you've
451 been nothing but -- but forthright with -- with us from what I

July 24 and 25, 2019

451 can tell. I mean you've admitted that the -- that Southfield IT
452 Group is a shell company. What we need to know now is why? Why
453 was it set up as a shell company? Who was involved in that
454 decision making process? Let's -- let's -- let's finish the --
455 the explanation.

456 MR. ADAM BALL: I think the [inaudible 26:02].

457 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well and --

458 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- You --

459 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- We -- well again

460 We kind of covered when we asked if you
461 wanted to have anyone else present like an attorney or
462 something, that would be up to you, and you can discontinue
463 questioning at any time. Is -- would -- would having an
464 attorney help you answer the questions or -- or is there -- or
465 do you think there -- if -- if we're wading in the waters that
466 you don't want to answer without counsel, is there -- is there
467 another way -- like I said another way we can go? Another way
468 we ask you? Is there something else that -- that, uh, that we
469 can do so it's -- it's, uh, more comfortable for you to keep
470 going?

471 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know. I've never -- I've never
472 been in on of these situations [inaudible 26:59].

July 24 and 25, 2019

473 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So -- well let me ask you a -
474 - a little bit different question then. So we talked to you.
475 You mentioned Jeff Bartlett. You mentioned Andrew Semenchuk.
476 Is there -- is there someone else we should talk to?

477 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

478 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

479 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What -- what -- what's your -
480 - let's ask some more background questions. Let's just kind of
481 just take a -- take a deep breath here. What is your
482 compensation here at SSI on an annual basis?

483 MR. ADAM BALL: It varies each year but --

484 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: How long have you been here?

485 MR. ADAM BALL: 10 years.

486 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 10 years. Okay. What was it
487 last year?

488 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, I -- I couldn't even tell you but
489 probably 300,000.

490 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Three hundred thousand.
491 Okay. I'm not going to hold you to the penny. Okay. But you
492 think that's a --

493 MR. ADAM BALL: That's close. Yeah.

494 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So I -- I mean -- come on, I
495 mean I -- we all know ballpark what we make. Do I want this --

July 24 and 25, 2019

496 again, I'm not going to hold you to the penny, but -- but I want
497 a -- a honest answer.

498 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

499 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right. So last year
500 2018, your salary was?

501 MR. ADAM BALL: Close to 300,000.

502 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Close to 300,000 from SSI?

503 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

504 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. But we've learned that
505 you also control Southfield IT Group. Any money from may --
506 made from Southfield IT Group? How much in 2018?

507 MR. ADAM BALL: 1.5 million.

508 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 1.5 million. So SSI, your
509 sole customer paid Southfield IT group north of 1.5 million I'm
510 assuming for -- for services.

511 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 29:03]

512 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and -- and then you
513 took a salary of about 1.5 million for 2018.

514 MR. ADAM BALL: That sounds about right.

515 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Sounds about right. Okay.
516 All right. Okay, uh, what about your wife? She works for
517 Southfield IT Group, what did she make in 2018?

July 24 and 25, 2019

518 MR. ADAM BALL: Give them whatever proportion that she
519 owns.

520 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What proportion of --

521 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 29:30] 80/20.

522 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 80/20. So help me out with
523 the math there. That'd be like \$300,000?

524 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Is that a quarter million
525 [inaudible 29:39]?

526 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I don't know. Yeah.

527 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

528 MR. ADAM BALL: And I -- to be honest mine could have been
529 1.3 and hers 200. I -- I -- I don't remember. I mean --

530 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- But -- but she --

531 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 29:49] --

532 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- she -- she probably --
533 200,000ish probably. Okay. Now that --

534 MR. ADAM BALL: -- And do you -- you -- you probably have
535 the numbers. I'm -- I mean we filed taxes. I'm -- I'm sure
536 you've got the numbers.

537 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um, actually I -- I don't.
538 Okay. I -- I don't. I have numbers for some things. This is
539 just a -- again let's just take a breath and get some

July 24 and 25, 2019

540 background, okay. So -- so your wife, I'm -- I'm guessing
541 that's her only source of employment?

542 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

543 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What else does -- does your
544 wife do?

545 MR. ADAM BALL: She's a school teacher.

546 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: School teacher. Is she a
547 full time school teacher?

548 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

549 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, so she has income
550 coming in from her position with -- what school does she work
551 for?

552 MR. ADAM BALL: Swan Valley.

553 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Swan Valley okay. All right.
554 I live down that way. I'm in Freeland.

555 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

556 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. A Falcon versus a
557 Viking, right?

558 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

559 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Is that it? All right. All
560 right. Um --

561 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- What age? Just curious.

562 MR. ADAM BALL: High school.

July 24 and 25, 2019

563 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: High school.

564 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: High school, okay. Uh, does
565 she -- does she have any other duties, uh, in her teaching. Is
566 she a --

567 MR. ADAM BALL: Student counsel, but --

568 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Student counsel, okay.
569 Anything else? [inaudible 31:05] teacher's name? A lot of them
570 are like coaching, um --

571 MR. ADAM BALL: She coached for 10 years.

572 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Coached for 10 years. When
573 did she give that up?

574 MR. ADAM BALL: Five years ago.

575 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay, so --

576 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 31:15]

577 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. All right. And again
578 that's a full-time teaching job, right?

579 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 31:24].

580 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So she -- what are her hours?
581 She probably has to show up at school what?

582 MR. ADAM BALL: 7:30 to 2:30 maybe.

583 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 7:30 to 2:30. Okay. Does
584 she have summers off?

585 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

586 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. All right. So that
587 was 2018. Let's go back another -- let's go back 2017. What --
588 what did you make? Again, Adam I just want a -- I just want
589 ballpark?

590 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm -- I'm guessing similar.

591 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Similar. So around 300,000
592 from SSI and 1.5 million thereabout from Southfield IT Group.
593 And same with your wife Sarah?

594 MR. ADAM BALL: Again I -- two years ago I -- I can't -- I
595 can't remember. I mean that's -- it would have been 80/20 or
596 whatever Southfield IT Group would have brought in.

597 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. She's 20% owner.
598 You're 80% owner.

599 MR. ADAM BALL: I think.

600 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You think?

601 MR. ADAM BALL: It might be 85/15. I -- I can't remember
602 how it was set up.

603 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Do you have an
604 accountant?

605 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, Nas [phonetic 32:42] Foulds & Co.

606 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Nasfolds? Uh, is that the
607 name of the company or --

July 24 and 25, 2019

608 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Nas Foulds & Company company.

609 [inaudible 32:53] Saginaw.

610 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Saginaw.

611 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I'm -- I'm not personally

612 familiar with that F-O-L-D-S.

613 MR. ADAM BALL: Uh, F-O-L-D-S.

614 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Oh okay.

615 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: That's the only accountant

616 that -- that you've worked with? What about for, uh, Southfield

617 IT Group?

618 MR. ADAM BALL: The same thing. I guess [inaudible 33:19]

619 --

620 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Okay. --

621 MR. ADAM BALL: -- if that's what you're asking.

622 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh okay. Okay. Okay. Folds

623 Foulds & Company. Okay. All right. All right. Um, who's

624 SSI's accountant?

625 MR. ADAM BALL: The same.

626 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: It's the same. Okay. Did --

627 did they help you set up the Southfield IT Group?

628 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so. I can't remember exactly but

629 I'm pretty sure.

July 24 and 25, 2019

630 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: As far as the -- now when I
631 say Southfield IT Group does go back to the National --

632 MR. ADAM BALL: -- National Elevation Certificates --

633 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Certificates. So they --
634 they helped form that company --

635 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so. I mean [inaudible 34:06]
636 setting those things up. It's -- it's usually a phone call or
637 something like that that says, hey, [inaudible 34:13].

638 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

639 MR. ADAM BALL: [Inaudible 34:16].

640 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So -- so then was it -- was
641 it -- the -- the accountant whose idea was to set up Southfield
642 IT Group and the -- like I said -- like we've established it's
643 basically a shell company?

644 MR. ADAM BALL: We're coming back to that same question.

645 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Back to that same question
646 that you're uncomfortable answering?

647 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

648 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What does -- what does yeah
649 mean? That you're not going to answer the question or we're
650 just apprehensive and we're going to do some back and forth and
651 --

652 MR. ADAM BALL: -- I don't know. [inaudible 35:09].

July 24 and 25, 2019

653 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. We -- we wish things
654 would happen [inaudible 35:18].

655 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

656 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Uh.

657 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So if we were to, um,
658 continue down the road of your annual income for the last
659 several years you're going to -- I don't want to put words in
660 your mouth, but you're going to -- you're going to tell me if I
661 go 2016 you don't remember. Similar to what it was this year.

662 MR. ADAM BALL: And I'm not doing that on purpose.

663 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Mm-hm.

664 MR. ADAM BALL: Honestly, I can -- I can't hardly tell you
665 what I make today [inaudible 35:53].

666 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: How is that possible though?

667 MR. ADAM BALL: It's just such a volatile [inaudible
668 35:58].

669 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Volatile? Well I mean I -- I
670 don't want to get argumentative here, but the last couple of
671 years you told me, um, it's been pretty consistent.
672 Consistently high. I mean that's --

673 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I don't remember '17.

674 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Mm-hm.

July 24 and 25, 2019

675 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean [inaudible 36:18] exactly '17, but
676 it's all based on, you know, performance-based bonuses, and all
677 of that other stuff, so till the end of the year hits you -- you
678 don't know how you're going to be rewarded or not.

679 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well, you have an idea. It
680 sounds like the majority of your income is coming from
681 Southfield IT Group.

682 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

683 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So you know how that's
684 handling, right? Or how do you decide what to pay yourself
685 through Southfield IT Group? Who makes that decision?

686 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean you talk to the accountants
687 basically but every year you -- essentially you don't know
688 [inaudible 36:56] comes in.

689 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Huh-uh.

690 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 37:03]

691 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Does -- does Southfield IT
692 Group -- you've only got two employees, so money should only be
693 going to you and Sarah correct? There's been no disbursements
694 to anyone else through Southfield IT Group?

695 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

696 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well other -- other than your
697 expenses like to say if you're setting something up or.

July 24 and 25, 2019

698 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You've never disbursed any
699 money to -is it Tara or Tera Semenchuk?

700 MR. ADAM BALL: I think it was a loan given to here at one
701 time.

702 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: A loan. For how much?

703 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 38:00].

704 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: But it's your company.

705 MR. ADAM BALL: Yep. It is.

706 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Who decided to make her the
707 loan? Or give her the loan?

708 MR. ADAM BALL: I guess ultimately it falls on me.

709 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Ultimately it falls on you
710 but practically were other people involved in the decision
711 making for Southfield IT Group, SSI when it comes to who's
712 getting what?

713 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Maybe another way of thinking
714 of it is it's not uncommon for a company to have only one client
715 or just for that -- for that reason that purpose and kind of
716 like we discussed earlier, if you only have one client or a
717 small amount of clients, you kind of want to be responsive to
718 their needs. If there's a need to from your client, you know,
719 disburse a loan, set up a server whatever, that's -- there's --
720 there's nothing illegal about that.

July 24 and 25, 2019

721 MR. ADAM BALL: [Inaudible 39:22].

722 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, let's -- we seem
723 to be hung up on you providing answers as to why the Southfield
724 IT Group, i.e., the -- the shell company was formed and who was
725 behind all of that. So let's again we'll -- we'll -- we'll
726 shift gears, um, and just cover some -- some simple -- maybe
727 some more topics. Um, your wife Sarah's, uh, timesheets, um,
728 who would have signed those?

729 MR. ADAM BALL: Sarah does.

730 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Sarah signed her own
731 timesheets?

732 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so.

733 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Does -- does she have
734 like regular work hours?

735 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

736 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: No. How -- how, uh, how many
737 hours a week would you say Sarah works for, um, Southfield IT?

738 MR. ADAM BALL: Zero for Southfield IT now.

739 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: She works zero hours for
740 Southfield IT Group. Then what justifies her compensation?

741 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 41:47].

July 24 and 25, 2019

742 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You're part owners of it
743 together. That's the sole justification for her -- her
744 receiving a paycheck?

745 MR. ADAM BALL: We're spouses, I mean -

746 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

747 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I think by -- by law [inaudible 42:04]
748 I'm pretty sure it has to be -- I know this kind of -- of an
749 accounting question, but I'm pretty sure it has to be disbursed
750 in proportion to your ownership.

751 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: It would -- it would depend
752 on the Articles Incorporation probably. Uh, there's probably some
rule in there
753 that -- that -- and -- and it may be very standard boilerplates
754 from your accounting firm or whatever, but, uh, yeah,
755 usually it's -- it's disbursed based upon, uh, uh, your
756 ownership percentage. And again, that's because of whatever
757 [inaudible 42:29] was put into the company [inaudible 42:30] or
758 something along those lines. Um, the, uh, so I -- I just have a
759 question about this. So she -- as in -- so she was doing
760 timesheets and -- and I'm just not familiar with this part of
761 it. She was doing timesheets even though she was an owner with
762 them?

763 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 42:56].

July 24 and 25, 2019

764 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I missed something then
765 because I thought I -- I thought I heard you say she signed the
766 -- she signed the timesheets.

767 MR. ADAM BALL: She was [inaudible 43:05] --

768 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Oh. So those were -- when
769 -- so when she signs timesheets, you're saying the timesheets
770 that were for SSI, not for Southfield?

771 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh, oh Sarah works for SSI?
772 What does she do for SSI?

773 MR. ADAM BALL: Have a few titles, administrative assistant
774 or something like that.

775 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Administrative assistant.
776 Does she come -- does she have an office?

777 MR. ADAM BALL: [NON-VERBAL RESPONSE].

778 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Does she have an email
779 address?

780 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

781 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: No. No SSI email address?

782 MR. ADAM BALL: [NO VERBAL RESPONSE].

783 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Who do -- who is she the
784 administrative assistant for?

785 MR. ADAM BALL: Probably me more than anybody.

July 24 and 25, 2019

786 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Probably you more than
787 anybody. What kind of work do you give her? You're shaking
788 your head no. Does that mean like -- I mean be honest with me.
789 You don't give her any work, correct?

790 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't [inaudible 44:05].

791 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Say that again.

792 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't give her any work.

793 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You don't give her any work.

794 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm assuming this is for [inaudible 44:12].

795 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um, you don't give her any
796 work. Okay.

797 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 44:20] still being recorded?

798 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Is it being recorded? Yes.
799 Um, so she doesn't have any work, yet she's pulling down a
800 paycheck. Not from SSI.

801 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 44:57].

802 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well is she -- she's -- she's
803 making money for -- I -- I don't think -- I don't think we have
804 information that she's -- she's getting a paycheck from SSI.
805 It's all coming from Southfield IT Group.

806 MR. ADAM BALL: She does get a check from SSI.

807 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh she does get a check from
808 SSI.

July 24 and 25, 2019

809 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I was just trying to clarify,
810 you said the timesheets for her -- we -- we told you we had
811 questions because we don't know the answers okay. Um, the time
812 -- you said the timesheets were from SSI, um --

813 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Is this SSI or Southfield
814 IT Group? Okay.

815 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Because if it's Southfield
816 ownership interest.. the 20 percent or the 15 or whatever.

817 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right. Do you know who
818 signed the checks written to Sarah here? Um, or I -- I guess --
819 again we're not the case agents, but it says who signed the
820 checks written to Sarah on the endorsements. The last name is
821 written out. Do you see these? I'll just let you take a look
822 at those -- those checks.

823 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 46:30].

824 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yep. Who -- who's -- who's
825 that?

826 MR. ADAM BALL: Courtney.

827 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And then on the
828 endorsement line that looks like to me --

829 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

830 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Sarah's name.

831 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

832 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And then who's under that?

833 MR. ADAM BALL: That's me.

834 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: That -- that's you?

835 MR. ADAM BALL: That's my signature.

836 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Take a look at -- at
837 all of them there. I think --

838 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

839 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So on -- on these
840 checks written to Sarah and this -- these -- this is from
841 Southfield IT Group, so Courtney -- who's Courtney?

842 MR. ADAM BALL: That my office manager.

843 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Office manager. So she's --
844 she's -- the SSI office manager? She's -- she's writing checks
845 for Southfield IT Group?

846 MR. ADAM BALL: [NON-VERBAL RESPONSE].

847 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Under who's direction?

848 MR. ADAM BALL: Mine I guess. Mine.

849 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yours you guess. Or I mean
850 are -- are there other people making -- are you working in
851 cooperation with other people?

852 MR. ADAM BALL: [NO VERBAL RESPONSE].

July 24 and 25, 2019

853 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Are -- are you sitting down
854 at the table with -- with Jeff? With Brian? And -- and others
855 from SSI to make the decision?

856 MR. ADAM BALL: I would say yes. And there's -- I think
857 we've got as close of work relationship [inaudible 48:15] yes.

858 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So Jeff Bartlett. Brian
859 Bartlett. Yourself and who else?

860 MR. ADAM BALL: At the time it would have been probably
861 Andy.

862 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Andy?

863 MR. ADAM BALL: Semenchuk.

864 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Semenchuk. Okay. Anybody
865 else?

866 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, Tony Thelen.

867 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Tony Thelen? Anybody else?

868 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

869 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So -- so the -- what
870 the -- you, Brian, Jeff, Andy, Tony Thelen. There's five of you
871 or six? Or did -- I'm missing one?

872 MR. ADAM BALL: Five.

873 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Five. Five. Okay. So the
874 five of you were making decisions on disbursing funds for both
875 SSI as well as Southfield IT Group?

July 24 and 25, 2019

876 MR. ADAM BALL: I would -- I would say yes. [inaudible
877 49:28].

878 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yes. Okay.

879 MR. ADAM BALL: When you're doing business, you know, when
880 your negotiations and everything else, so.

881 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So the -- so the five of you
882 sit down and decided how the -- how the funds are -- are going
883 to be disbursed? Who's making what? That sort of thing?

884 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: For -- for example, going
885 back to the -- the loan to Tara, that we had mentioned, it is --
886 it is fair to say that among that group of the five of you,
887 that's how that decision came?

888 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 50:16].

889 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

890 MR. ADAM BALL: And their accountants had a lot to do with
891 us getting paid you know. First tax - taxes, you know,
892 LLC's, you can save some money versus who's in the company and,
893 um, I don't know.

894 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: When -- when you say
895 accounting, uh, that's the foulds?

896 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

897 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. Do -- does anyone from
898 -- I know you said they kind of help you with the numbers and

July 24 and 25, 2019

899 figure out, you know, the best business interest, you know, LLC
900 versus incorporated or all those kinds of things, um, do -- do
901 any of them, um, uh, take part in -- to determine, you know,
902 negotiations of business?

903 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't -- I don't think so. I mean --

904 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I mean I know that you said
905 they kind of advised you like how -- how the finances, uh,
906 should look and how to prepare the taxes, you know, for tax
907 purposes. Um, what, you know, what accounts to -- to use to
908 make sure you're following the law and things like that, um, and
909 -- and that -- that makes -- that makes perfect sense, um, but
910 and then that's what I was trying to draw a line between whether
911 -- whether they actually had any say in the business people
912 that advise that.

913 MR. ADAM BALL: I would say -- I mean, Foulds i
914 kind of more of an advisory. They -- they ultimately obviously
915 don't have any decision on the ultimate check that's written or
916 whatever, but they do weigh in on, you know, how to not cheat
917 the system. IRS wise or anything like that, but hey, this is --
918 this is how the rules are written. This is the -- the best way
919 of capitalizing a couple extra percent if you're -- you're
920 organizing as a LLC versus a C Corp. like that.

July 24 and 25, 2019

921 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: That makes sense for
922 accounting. Um, you -- I think I wrote it down because I hadn't
923 -- hadn't heard the term like [inaudible 52:33] account. Um,
924 yeah, they -- they would probably advise you to do that right?

925 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

926 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Like which account to -- to
927 make sure was -- was where. I mean [inaudible 52:42] that's
928 what we all do right? I mean, you get a deadline and you max out
929 -- your 401K or IRA or whatever right.

930 MR. ADAM BALL: Right.

931 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

932 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And I'm -- I'm
933 bouncing around a bit, but I just want to get clarification on,
934 uh, Tara or Tara Semenchuk.

935 MR. ADAM BALL: It's Tara.

936 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Tara. Um, money was paid to
937 -- to her but \$700,000 and it was a loan you said, is that
938 correct?

939 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. It was a loan.

940 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And is she paying back
941 that loan?

942 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm pretty sure gradually, yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

943 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Gradually, yeah. What are
944 her loan payments? What's the loan agreement?

945 MR. ADAM BALL: I forget exactly what it is, but I'm pretty
946 sure it was paying interest only or something like that.

947 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Interest only? So principle
948 would never have to be repaid?

949 MR. ADAM BALL: At -- at some point it would be I'm
950 thinking.

951 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You're -- you're thinking.
952 Any -- any loan agreement written on -- on that? Would there be
953 written documentation?

954 MR. ADAM BALL: I think probably.

955 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Who would have that do you
956 think?

957 MR. ADAM BALL: Courtney probably would.

958 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Courtney. Okay, so might
959 have some -- some paperwork on that loan? Okay, um,

960 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Uh --

961 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- and you I'm -- I'm sorry.
962 Go ahead.

963 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I was going to say not -- I
964 was just going to clarify not Foulds, uh, not [inaudible 54:25]
965 they would have necessarily paperwork or --

July 24 and 25, 2019

966 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think they would.

967 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

968 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And then just to kind
969 of clarify what -- what you said so far, um, regarding why
970 checks were cut from Southfield IT Group to Sarah, um, instead
971 of just yourself, um, it was because Sarah owns a percentage of
972 Southfield IT Group?

973 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm pretty sure [inaudible 55:05] told us
974 that.

975 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Rather than write everything
976 to yourself you should --

977 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 55:08] to the --

978 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- to the ownership --

979 MR. ADAM BALL: -- ownership --

980 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- interest.

981 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. [inaudible 55:15] a whole nother LLC
982 Was set up percentage wise.

983 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So -- so that's why
984 Sarah got money from Southfield IT Group despite not doing any
985 work?

986 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

987 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. [CELL PHONE RINGING]

988 Um, yeah, we're just going to have to let that ring, if you

July 24 and 25, 2019

989 don't mind. Thank you. Um, and then Sarah works here although
990 she doesn't do anything, correct.

991 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

992 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Okay. Um, because a -
993 - a - again we're not as intimately I guess knowledgeable about
994 all the inner workings and then what statements have --
995 documents have been reviewed. What -- what has not been at this
996 point. But it's my understanding that SSI -- now we're talking
997 Survey Solutions Inc., um, claimed Sarah worked, uh, 1232 hours
998 in 2017. Okay. But she's also a full-time teacher, correct?

999 MR. ADAM BALL: [NO VERBAL RESPONSE].

1000 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. She received pay of
1001 \$35,748 from SSI in 2017 and she was bonused \$83,000 from SSI in
1002 2017. You want to see the -- that pay work or are you good with
1003 it?

1004 MR. ADAM BALL: That sounds about right.

1005 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Sounds about right. Okay.
1006 Explain that? You can't explain it?

1007 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

1008 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. It - Adam, do any of
1009 the other spouses in the group of five, you mentioned [CELL
1010 PHONE RINGING] yourself, Jeffrey Bartlett, Brain Bartlett, um,
1011 Andy
1011 Semenchuk and then the Thelen. What was his name? The, um --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1012 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Tony.

1013 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Tony. Tony. Anthony Thelen.

1014 Are they involved?

1015 MR. ADAM BALL: With what?

1016 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Receiving checks? Receiving
1017 an income from either SSI or Southfield IT Group?

1018 MR. ADAM BALL: We're talking spouses you said?

1019 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

1020 MR. ADAM BALL: Yes.

1021 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. What -- what's your
1022 knowledge of -- of the other spouses involvement in SSI? And
1023 I've got to believe you know the answer to this.

1024 MR. ADAM BALL: I would say probably somewhere similar as
1025 Sarah.

1026 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Similar as Sarah, so
1027 basically on paper only. They're not doing any work?

1028 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm not going to say that out of my mouth,
1029 but I don't know. I don't -- I really don't know what they do,
1030 um, outside these walls, I don't know.

1031 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Have you seen them show up
1032 for work here?

1033 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1034 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You've never seen them at --
1035 at this office showing up for work, any of the spouses?

1036 MR. ADAM BALL: [NON-VERBAL RESPONSE].

1037 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1038 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: [inaudible 59:08].

1039 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. Go -- go -- go ahead.
1040 Go ahead.

1041 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, so I've -- I've got it in
1042 here. Uh, Stephen Grzesiak, is that how you say it?

1043 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1044 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, what -- what is -- what
1045 does he have to do with anything?

1046 MR. ADAM BALL: He's Foulds.

1047 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: He's Foulds. Okay, uh, so
1048 okay. I thought I would have more questions. I think that's
1049 it.

1050 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So he's -- do -- do you know
1051 is Stephen Grzesiak the -- the only accountant doing business
1052 there or is -- is there a group? It's like a -- like a
1053 managing. Like I know, uh, accountants are like lawyers. You
1054 know, they're, uh, they've got partners and they've got managers
1055 and got whatever. Um, is he a manager or a partner or --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1056 MR. ADAM BALL: I think he's basically the main owner down
1057 there [inaudible 59:59]. I think it's [inaudible 1:00:04] Steve
1058 -- Steve is like the senior --

1059 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Senior partner? --

1060 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Senior partner, you know, [inaudible
1061 1:00:11] owner or however that works.

1062 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. But you said Kimberly
1063 Dilts --

1064 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Dilts. I think it's D-I-L-T-S.

1065 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: D-I-L-T-S. She would be the
1066 -- and I don't want to put words in your mouth, but I'm just
1067 trying to understand. She would be the one that you'd probably
1068 see on a more of a day-to-day basis if you -- if there's any
1069 accounting issues or, you know, say hey, I want to look at the
1070 books of, you know, for this project or whatever, it would be
1071 Kimberly doing the -- basic -- basically the leg work and then
1072 Steve comes in, probably you meet with him how many --

1073 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Once a year. --

1074 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- once a year to kind of
1075 play ball and everything and he gives you the blessing and you
1076 know boom. All right.

1077 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And -- and they're -- they're
1078 both CPA's then?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1079 MR. ADAM BALL: Yes.

1080 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1081 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right. I -- I think, you
1082 know, you know Adam I -- I think you've been -- I -- I just want
1083 to -- I want to thank you for your cooperation. Um, I mean
1084 we're -- we are almost there. We're almost done. It's just
1085 that -- that -- the one sticking point as to the purpose of
1086 Southfield IT Groups I guess existence.

1087 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know, to make a profit.

1088 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: To make a profit.

1089 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean [inaudible 1:02:17].

1090 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And your only customer is the
1091 company you work for?

1092 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1093 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, who -- as long as
1094 we're still on Southfield IT Group, who set up the, uh, well,
1095 let me ask you this. Well I'm going to go down this road since
1096 I've opened the door, um, who set up the website?

1097 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm pretty sure Andy did.

1098 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Andy Semenchuk?

1099 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1100 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Did Andy -- did -- did
1101 Andy have any -- any ownership interest in National Elevation or
1102 Southfield IT Group?

1103 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

1104 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So why would he set up the
1105 website?

1106 MR. ADAM BALL: He -- for a long time -- he's the IT guru
1107 around here as well, so I had him to help set everything up. I
1108 can't remember if he did it or a Network Service Group did it.

1109 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Network Service Group? What
1110 -- what -- what does -- what is Network Service Group?

1111 MR. ADAM BALL: Uh, I think [inaudible 1:03:40] Saginaw,
1112 they build up the vast majority of SSI's internet backbone. I think
1113 they host their, um, server, uh, not our server, but our -- what
1114 do you call it your domain, or I don't know exactly how it works
1115 but.

1116 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay, so you -- you're paying
1117 another IT company to handle your internet?

1118 MR. ADAM BALL: Somewhere [inaudible 1:04:20]. [inaudible
1119 1:04:16] advertising is real low, but this back before my time,
1120 but obviously nobody knew the [inaudible 1:04:26] computers --

1121 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Mm-hm. --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1122 MR. ADAM BALL: -- and Network Services Group started the
1123 WWW-IS or SSI-MI.com domain. So base -- basically they kind of
1124 have us held hostage unless we want to switch all of our emails
1125 and websites and everything else that [inaudible 1:04:50], so
1126 we're basically stuck with them, um, be -- because of that. I
1127 mean --

1128 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Do they -- do they work at
1129 all with your, uh, with Southfield as far as making sure the
1130 sites are connected or -- or would they have more -- if -- if we
1131 had more questions about with like, like you said I think you said
1132 **terabytes, petabyte,**
1133 whatever the storage is, do -- do they deal with that? Do they
1134 assist with that?

1134 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so. I don't know. I'm pretty sure
1135 they have some involvement [inaudible 1:05:22].

1136 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Do they do anything with
1137 storage? Data storage or is that --

1138 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so.

1139 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1140 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think they -- they might -- they
1141 might have like an FTP server that we somehow use for small
1142 amounts of
1143 storage, usually temporary small amounts of storage but I don't
1144 think so.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1144 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: But -- but Southfield IT
1145 Group, your company handles the -- the vast quantities of data
1146 storage that you require, correct?

1147 MR. ADAM BALL: I think so.

1148 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1149 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So -- so Network
1150 service group, um, I think you said maybe set up -- set the
1151 emails or -- or -- or coordinate maybe not host but coordinate
1152 the domain and the connections between sites. Do you guys like
1153 -- with the laptop there, you, uh, what's the word I'm looking
1154 for? I can't think of it now. VPS, do you VPN or something like
1155 that to different sites or connect otherwise?

1156 MR. ADAM BALL: We've got a VPN system here that we
1157 [inaudible 1:06:23] --

1158 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Okay. --

1159 MR. ADAM BALL: -- or whatever's up.

1160 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Did -- did NSG like -- are
1161 they the ones who set it up or --

1162 MR. ADAM BALL: -- No. --

1163 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- it --

1164 MR. ADAM BALL: -- well I mean maybe originally, but we've
1165 got a couple of guys internal here that do the setting up
1166 Dropbox and --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1167 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Okay. --

1168 MR. ADAM BALL: -- getting - loading the software. Getting
1169 them ready and that would include the VPN.

1170 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: But I -- I -- it would be
1171 wrong to say the Network, uh, Services Group, um, would set that
1172 up. It's, like you said, the SSI mostly set that up?

1173 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 1:07:05].

1174 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1175 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Just a second [inaudible
1176 1:07:40]. Who's Cary Hutchinson]?

1177 MR. ADAM BALL: The, um, he's a new hire that now does
1178 part-time IT stuff for us. He's a mechanical engineer who got
1179 hire I want to say maybe a year ago. But he does help now with
1180 the IT side of things and he kind of took over for Andy's IT
1181 knowledge when Andy went a different way.

1182 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Well, it -- it looks
1183 like Cary sent an email, um, and it sets forth, um, Southfield
1184 IT Group's storage capacity.

1185 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

1186 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. The servers number one
1187 through seven, okay, have approximately 75 terabytes of storage.
1188 Does that sound right? Terabyte is quite a bit.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1189 Special Agent Doug Smith: Yeah, that's a lot.

1190 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't - I don't know the exact number

1191 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So this was dated, uh,
1192 May 30 of this year.

1193 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

1194 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, but SSI stated to
1195 MDOT that they had received an \$811,000 invoice from Southfield
1196 IT Group for 306 terabytes of storage. And according to
1197 Hutchinson email, Southfield IT, your company, could not have
1198 provided that much storage. It just doesn't exist. Okay. Can
1199 you explain the discrepancy?

1200 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so.

1201 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You can't? Okay. And
1202 Southfield IT Group was established the shell company to inflate
1203 your overhead rates for SSI, correct?

1204 MR. ADAM BALL: I can't answer that.

1205 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: It -- it was -- it was one of
1206 three companies that were formed to essentially do that. Your
1207 shell companies related to the ownerships. The owners of SSI to
1208 inflate your overhead rate.

1209 MR. ADAM BALL: I can't answer that, I don't know.

1210 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You can or you won't?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1211 MR. ADAM BALL: Just can't]. The companies are formed for
1212 a lot of different reasons whether it's liability protection.

1213 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well it -- at -- at a minimum
1214 it looks like you're -- you're grossly overbilling.

1215 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know what the [inaudible 1:11:29].

1216 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right.

1217 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Do you, uh, for Southfield,
1218 since you're -- since you're an owner and you're hands off with
1219 the IT, is there anyone else that does though? Like they're
1220 send out a bill based off of somebody else's like, you know,
1221 Hutchinson's calculations or something in store or --

1222 MR. ADAM BALL: There's nobody else Courtney
1223 Southfield IT [inaudible 1:12:13].

1224 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um, my old eyes are,
1225 uh, having a hard time picking this up. Doug can you -- let me
1226 show it to you here. [inaudible 1:12:50] company?

1227 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah.

1228 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What are the -- the names?

1229 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Oh, um, 2SI and 3SI.

1230 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What, uh, what can you tell
1231 us about those?

1232 MR. ADAM BALL: One of them involves the trucks. The
1233 [inaudible 1:13:18] buildings and stuff.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1234 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Uh, which ones does what?

1235 MR. ADAM BALL: 2SI owns the trucks and 3SI owns the
1236 building.

1237 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Who runs or who owns 2SI?

1238 MR. ADAM BALL: I think Brian and Tony.

1239 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Uh, what about 3SI?

1240 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 1:13:46] also.

1241 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So, uh, Brian and Tony both
1242 own both?

1243 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1244 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. Uh, you -- you
1245 mentioned when you're talking about Southfield that like how you
1246 and your wife are 80/20, 85/15, something like that. Is 50/50
1247 on both forms or they're like 60/40 and then they clip it on the
1248 other one or?

1249 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know how they have it set up. I'm
1250 assuming 50/50 [inaudible 1:14:14] corporation, but I don't know
1251 for sure.

1252 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay. I -- I just assumed
1253 they might be, you know, imbalanced in some way and then, you
1254 know, fixed on the other side or something just in case there's
1255 that [inaudible 1:14:32] to know how many voting and make
1256 decisions and all of that. Um, what about -- so Brian and Tony

July 24 and 25, 2019

1257 for those. That -- maybe with the other person I had
1258 written down can kind of, um, part of the group that helps make
1259 the decisions, so Andy -- Andy's not -- he stepped away from SSI
1260 and he's not -- he's not part of 2SI or 3SI or Southfield?

1261 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1262 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What was the reason for
1263 Andy's departure?

1264 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 1:15:17] retirement and, uh, he
1265 had enough. It's a rat race. [inaudible 1:15:33].

1266 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: The, uh, SSI office in
1267 Saginaw, they're on Fortune Boulevard? What, uh, what's there?

1268 MR. ADAM BALL: That's basically just a -- I -- I go there
1269 about two days a week. One day a week. Wintertime if the road
1270 are bad.

1271 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What -- what do you keep
1272 there?

1273 MR. ADAM BALL: Kind of a mirror image of what you're
1274 seeing here.

1275 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1276 MR. ADAM BALL: I take my computer back and forth.

1277 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Just -- just at -- any --
1278 anybody else in the office? It's just -- so it just -- just
1279 you?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1280 MR. ADAM BALL: Just me.

1281 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Do you -- do you guys
1282 own that building?

1283 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

1284 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Rent it?

1285 MR. ADAM BALL: Eurich

1286 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay, Eurich that -- Eurich
1287 Construction is that?

1288 MR. ADAM BALL: Eurich, uh, Home Improvement.

1289 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Is that -- that's the
1290 business that is attached to you right?

1291 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1292 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And you -- you lease
1293 it you said?

1294 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1295 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What's the lease rate?

1296 MR. ADAM BALL: I think \$1,000 a month.

1297 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. No -- no computer
1298 hardware there? No -- no servers?

1299 MR. ADAM BALL: No servers yet. Two printers and Wi-Fi and
1300 I think like a switch or something and that switches the
1301 [inaudible 1:17:00].

July 24 and 25, 2019

1302 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. All right and the
1303 computer you say is your laptop and that travels with you? So
1304 there's not a computer there?

1305 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1306 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1307 MR. ADAM BALL: Well there's two of my old laptops that are
1308 there.

1309 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. All right. Um, and
1310 then, uh, there's also, uh, office in St. John?

1311 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1312 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: What -- what's in that
1313 office?

1314 MR. ADAM BALL: That's Tony. Basically Tony's managerial
1315 office and there's probably I think at this time he's probably
1316 got 30 guys that work for him down there.

1317 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh they work 30 out of -- out
1318 of the St. John's office?

1319 MR. ADAM BALL: That's [inaudible 1:17:43] staffed and
1320 [inaudible 1:17:49] garage and it's full blown there.

1321 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1322 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Like here? Similar?
1323 Smaller?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1324 MR. ADAM BALL: A lot smaller than I'd say probably half
1325 this or even -- even less than this. [inaudible 1:18:07].

1326 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: But did -- they're got
1327 enough equipment and people.

1328 MR. ADAM BALL: Oh yeah.

1329 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1330 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm pretty sure they've got their own
1331 server there.

1332 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1333 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 1:18:31]

1334 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1335 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: There's a Novi office?

1336 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1337 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh, what -- what's that
1338 address?

1339 MR. ADAM BALL: I think it's 43000 Nine Mile Road

1340 [inaudible 1:18:45].

1341 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Is that, uh, is that more
1342 like your office or is that more like the -- the St. John's?

1343 Adam Ball: It'll be similar to like Saginaw
1344 seldomly we store all of our concrete, cylinder

1345 molds there. Um, Jason Fisher headquartered down there but
MDOT has him working in your office

1346 directly, so he -- he doesn't report [inaudible 1:19:20].

July 24 and 25, 2019

1347 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So Jason Fisher?

1348 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Jason Fisher, yeah.

1349 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: F-I-S-C-H-E-R?

1350 MR. ADAM BALL: F-I-S-H-E-R.

1351 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: F-I-S-H-E-R. Where is he

1352 where does he sit then for, when he works with MDOT?

1353 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I don't know what office he's actually

1354 working out of. He's on that big, uh, like 75 mega project near

1355 Novi and he kind of -- I don't know if it's in a field office or

1356 one of their normal TSC offices right now.

1357 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1358 MR. ADAM BALL: But he's still involved with them that they

1359 said that he come park yourself in this cubicle or whatever, so

1360 he's -- he's not at the Novi office right now.

1361 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1362 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

1363 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: But originally that was --

1364 that was for him to work out of and now he's on that project, so

1365 he's -- he's, uh, over there?

1366 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1367 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And he's -- just to be clear

1368 he's just -- he's an employee of SSI?

1369 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1370 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Okay.

1371 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right, so we're -- we're
1372 still kind of hung up on that -- on that one question and just
1373 so I'm clear, you're not going to answer anything more about --
1374 about why Southfield IT Group was -- was formed?

1375 MR. ADAM BALL: I can't. No.

1376 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. I thought I had one
1377 more question for you regarding -- regarding your wife. Oh,
1378 just kind of a -- a -- a -- a general catchall question. Um, is
1379 she aware that she's receiving money from SSI for doing nothing?
1380 I mean I -- I put it pretty bluntly, but I mean --

1381 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 1:21:25] --

1382 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- yes, she is aware that
1383 she's -- she's getting -- getting a paycheck, uh, so to speak
1384 from SSI to include bonuses, etc. for -- for doing no work?

1385 MR. ADAM BALL: She's aware she's getting a check.

1386 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Has she ever -- has she ever
1387 questioned Adam why -- why -- why -- why -- why is SSI
1388 paying me, um, paying me for doing -- for not doing anything?

1389 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

1390 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: She's never questioned?

1391 MR. ADAM BALL: I handle all the money in our family and --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1392 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And that's why we want to ask
1393 because we didn't know if you had these been signed before
1394 ...before I can cash them? If she actually was looking to
1395 read...
1396 what was being, you know, signed for at that point?

1396 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I mean call me crazy but so
1397 many slides of \$83000 check they have me sign, I'm going to --

1398 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Mm-hm. --

1399 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- I'm going to remember, you
1400 know, signing it and I might have a question -- and my wife's
1401 name is Beth, hey, Beth, why am I endorsing this \$83000 check.
1402 Nothing like that occurred? No conversation?

1403 MR. ADAM BALL: [NO VERBAL RESPONSE].

1404 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You're shaking your head no.
1405 Does that mean, no, she didn't ask you? Or no, you're not going
1406 to answer?

1407 MR. ADAM BALL: She -- she trust me to handle the finances
1408 and --

1409 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Alrighty. Okay, Doug, have I
1410 missed anything and we neglected to go over?

1411 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: No. I don't -- no, I don't
1412 think so. I was looking through there.

1413 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right, well I'm going to
1414 let you look through there and I'm going to just step out for a

July 24 and 25, 2019

1415 just a second Andy, Adam, I apologize. Um, I'll be back, but
1416 before I go, is there anything that you want to add?

1417 MR. ADAM BALL: I've tried to be as upfront as I can.

1418 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You -- you -- you -- you had
1419 -- I -- I -- I -- you have been. I mean I don't have any -- any
1420 -- you -- you haven't, uh, you've been cooperative, um, to a
1421 point. I mean we both know -- I -- I think you're at the -- the
1422 edge of, you know, explaining why Southfield IT Group and the
1423 other -- the, uh, SSI, um, ones and twos were formed. Um, from
1424 what -- from what we can tell, um, not from what we can tell,
1425 what we know is -- is they're shell companies. I mean you're
1426 not bulls**ting anybody here. Um, but, uh, I -- I -- I think
1427 you're almost there and I wish you would. I wish you would just
1428 completely explain the situation. I think it'll -- it'll go --
1429 it will in the end it will work out better for you if you were
1430 to do that. Um --

1431 MR. ADAM BALL: What do you mean by that?

1432 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well, I mean we aren't in the
1433 habit, when I say we, the FBI, uh, the, you know, Federal
1434 Department of Transportation, um, who -- who's here as well.
1435 Uh, we just don't do this on a whim. Um, the case agent, Brian
1436 Butler has his ducks in a row. Um, and we know a lot of the --
1437 the answers to -- to the questions we asked, um, before --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1438 before we asked them. I mean even Doug and I who aren't, you
1439 know, as dialed in on the -- on the nuts and bolts of the case
1440 as -- as perhaps, you know, uh, Brian is and his -- his co --
1441 coagents are with the Department of Transportation, but, um, and
1442 it has -- it's going to serve you well that -- that you were
1443 upfront with us. You shot straight with us. I'm going to tell
1444 Brian that. But, you know, ultimately we're not just going to,
1445 you know, we're not going to go away today. We're not arresting
1446 you. You're not getting arrested. Nobody's getting arrested,
1447 but this isn't just going to be like, "oh, well the FBI was here
1448 and -- and they left." I mean you're -- you're a smarter guy
1449 than what you're letting on Adam. Um, and -- and this thing is
1450 going to continue to move forward and we're going to get the
1451 answers to -- to those questions eventually. Um, --

1452 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: What -- what -- what we keep
1453 saying though as far as we appreciate your honesty and working
1454 with us is that we don't always get the response that we've
1455 gotten from you, because people will try to lie to us and -- and
1456 that's starts down a path of -- of additional problems because
1457 it -- it's -- it's at the point that there's -- at the point
1458 that there's, uh, dishonesty, I mean there's a -- there's a
1459 Statute 18USC1001, you can't lie to federal agents and so like
1460 just starting down that path all of a sudden starts adding

July 24 and 25, 2019

1461 charge or -- or lying about other things, uh, throughout can add
1462 additional, um, you know, attempts to, you know, to create a
1463 fraud and that kind of thing. So -- so that's why we're saying,
1464 you know, like -- like Steve's saying here that we -- we know a
1465 lot of the answers and that's how we know that you're being
1466 honest and -- and forthright with us and, uh, we have in our 30
1467 years of combined experience seen that play out better than
1468 trying to go the other direction of lying and, uh, uh, and --
1469 and -- and making things worst by doing it that way.

1470 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Right. And to answer your
1471 question, I -- I was taking a long time to get there, uh, Adam,
1472 I -- I apologize. Uh, what's happening here is they -- and I
1473 hope answer it, uh, there's a search of -- of -- of the business
1474 occurring as -- as we're speaking. We've -- we've got a search
1475 warrant for your computer. All the computers.

1476 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Phones.

1477 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Your phone is going with us
1478 today okay. So when I say ultimately we're going to get the
1479 answer as to why Southfield IT Group was created. Um, you know,
1480 we're going to be looking at emails between all of you and, um,
1481 business records which we already, you know, we have a -- a good
1482 number of those already. Um, we know what has occurred. What -
1483 - what the scheme was. And that the five of you conspired to

July 24 and 25, 2019

1484 obtain a lot more money than SSI was due. So I guess I'll leave
1485 at that. I'm going to step out. You can think about that.
1486 Mull that over. And when I come back, hopefully, we can -- we
1487 can continue the conversation all right?

1488 MR. ADAM BALL: As far as the phone, if you take it, how --
1489 how do I reach out to talk business and move forward?

1490 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I would say get another
1491 phone.

1492 MR. ADAM BALL: Well -- well I mean that phone -- phone
1493 number and stuff. I mean can I keep my --

1494 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- What we'll --

1495 MR. ADAM BALL: -- number?

1496 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Oh.

1497 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh.

1498 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah.

1499 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. Yeah. You probably
1500 can. Yeah.

1501 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: It would be just, you know,
1502 it would just be, uh, like if you were getting a new phone
1503 probably transferring service.

1504 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1505 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, because what -- what --
1506 what our --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1507 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I'll let you answer that
1508 question.

1509 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah. [inaudible 1:29:44]
1510 and -- and just -- just [inaudible 1:29:47].

1511 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: [WALKING OUTSIDE]

1512 BRIAN BUTLER: Yeah, Adam Ball are you talking to Adam
1513 Ball?

1514 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

1515 BRIAN BUTLER: Oh okay. He's with you?

1516 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: He's with us.

1517 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay. Is he cooperating?

1518 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah, I'll let -- yeah, I'll
1519 let you know.

1520 BRIAN BUTLER: I did not get it.

1521 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Nope. When you were talking,
1522 I grabbed your shoulder and said I've got Adam Ball in his
1523 office.

1524 BRIAN BUTLER: I do remember that. Yes.

1525 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. That's fair. Anyway -
1526 -

1527 BRIAN BUTLER: Sorry, I thought there was something more
1528 recent than that.

1529 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and -- and Adam is --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1530 is talking and he has -- wasn't very smooth interview on my
1531 part, however, um. Hey Adam, this is, uh, Brian Butler.[Door
closes]

1532 BRIAN BUTLER: Pleasure to meet you.

1533 MR. ADAM BALL: Pleasure to meet you..

1534 BRIAN BUTLER: Um , s o I wanted to step in and to
introduce
1535 myself. I am the case agent for this matter. I'm the one, um,
these guys

1536 are here and they're helping me, and I appreciate it. Um, but

1537 I'm the one who has gone through everything and knows the ins

1538 and outs of what's been going on here. Um, and I've -- I -- I

1539 had a very good sense coming in today of what was going on and

1540 I've -- I have a better sense of what's going on up here now

1541 that I'm here. And that sense, an important part of it is
that

1542 the people in -- in this building who operate around here are

1543 good people. Right. But they're good people who did something

1544 wrong, okay. They -- they are hardworking people. They're --

1545 they're bust their ass kind of hardworking people is who they

1546 are. Um, they are family men and -- and that to me is the

1547 big one. Okay. That's important today because -- because

1548 good people makes mistakes. Okay. And -- and good people what

1549 they do when they make mistakes is that they own up to them and
then they do everything in

1550 their power to make things right and to take care of their

1551 families. Because at the end of the day today, that's your job

July 24 and 25, 2019

1552 right now, is how do you get back to your family as quick as
1553 you can and take care of them. That's your job here in this
1554 world, right.

1555 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1556 BRIAN BUTLER: : Like surveying-- it's -- surveying is one
1557 thing, investigating until it fits something, but at the end of
1558 the day we go home to our families.

1559 MR. ADAM BALL: Right.

1560 BRIAN BUTLER: And that's what I want you to do. To go
1561 home to your family, but I see the way to that path is through
1562 the

1562 truth. And -- and I've told people I don't like this case. And
1563 this case is -- it's one of my -- I don't like it because you
1564 guys are -- you're good people. You're good people who made a
1565 mistake. And so I think how do we -- how do you resolve that?
1566 To me what I see is -- what people can understand what -- what a
1567 juror in Saginaw or someone from Standish, they get a story
1568 that they can understand. I tell you what they won't
1569 understand. Or what they won't buy. They won't buy a big, long
1570 elaborate story of like oh we created this shell company and
1571 then we -- we made these invoices, which were all bogus and that
1572 we were doing all of this just to redistribute profits amongst
1573 the
1573 owners of the company. And like it doesn't make sense. You

July 24 and 25, 2019

1574 don't go through that much effort to just redistribute profits.

1575 Correct?

1576 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1577 BRIAN BUTLER: Correct. So the reason you do all of that

1578 -- because if you're going to redistribute profits, right, five

1579 owners, right? Divide up 100% by that, everyone gets their

1580 equal share, end of the year, boom, divvy profits out. Okay.

1581 But you don't do it that way. That's the easy way. Well, not

1582 easy, that's straightforward. That's how businesses operate

1583 when you're straightforward ownership. But when businesses want

1584 to squeeze out more money from the government, they start

1585 creating shell companies. Because the shell companies can

1586 invoice, and invoices get passed back to Michigan. Is that all

1587 correct? Is that all correct? It's hard. So this is that

1588 moment, right? Of ownership, right?

1589 MR. ADAM BALL: It start with the moment.

1590 BRIAN BUTLER: It's the moment. And you have to chose

1591 who do you want to be perceived as. As the man who -- who when

1592 confronted with what he did, said I made a mistake. I love my

1593 family and I'll admit to what I did, and I'm going to go

1594 forward. That's all we're -- I mean that's what we're asking

1595 you to do okay.

1596 MR. ADAM BALL: Mm-hm.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1597 BRIAN BUTLER: Unfortunately the situation you're in, you
1598 don't, you don't have great choices. I'll be honest with you.
1599 You -- you can say we weren't doing that. It was, uh, you
1600 know, but my job is facts. I don't look at my job as trying to
1601 make cases or get people. I want as best I can to gather
1602 facts and put the facts together. I want to see what happened
1603 here. And that's what I've been working very hard at, and I
1604 will continue to work very hard at. So I'm going -- we will not
1605 I'm going. There will -- the facts will illustrate the picture.
1606 The picture is that you created the shell company.
1607 You've got to [inaudible 1:43:23]. It was a company in Wyoming
1608 It was a shell company. Your name is all over it, Adam, do you
1609 know that? Like you're -- you -- you formed National Elevations
1610 right?

1611 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1612 BRIAN BUTLER: And you were well aware that Southfield IT
1613 Group was a trade name used?

1614 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1615 BRIAN BUTLER: And Adam [sic] Grzesiak, the CPA did that?

1616 MR. ADAM BALL: Steve.

1617 BRIAN BUTLER: I'm sorry. Uh, Steve Grzesiak. Did I
1618 pronounce that correct?

1619 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1620 BRIAN BUTLER: And he did that? And that you -- there
1621 was one question I had. Bid you guys -- on your indirect cost
1622 rate you it was 1 -- 1.4 million dollars roughly forgiven year
1623 for IT managed services, correct?

1624 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know. I don't even know.

1625 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay.

1626 MR. ADAM BALL: Somewhere in there. I know we talked
1627 about what the profits were last year. I don't even get into
1628 the [inaudible 1:44:13] --

1629 UNKNONW MALE: So is that how it -- is that how it was
1630 done? So then they -- they disallowed a number a -- Some of
1631 money and then they only passed through the state -- well, only that
1632 is -- strike only. They passed through roughly \$600,000. And
1633 don't quote me on the numbers. I'd have documents in front
1634 Of me but they passed through several hundred thousand
1635 dollars. Was there math done elsewhere to say, hey, how can we
1636 split up the profit on this?

1637 MR. ADAM BALL: NO VERBAL RESPONSE.

1638 BRIAN BUTLER: Who decides [inaudible 1:44:46]?

1639 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: He --

1640 BRIAN BUTLER: Yeah.

1641 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You started to say you don't
1642 get into the overhead. Who does the overhead?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1643 MR. ADAM BALL: It was always either Andy or, you know, I
1644 think Jeff was doing it now, but --

1645 BRIAN BUTLER: But you knew that overhead rate -- you
1646 know how --

1647 MR. ADAM BALL: -- I know --

1648 BRIAN BUTLER: -- it works.

1649 MR. ADAM BALL: I know. I know how it works basically.
1650 Yes.

1651 BRIAN BUTLER: And you knew that expenses to a shell
1652 company --

1653 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1654 BRIAN BUTLER: -- that didn't actually occur would be
1655 applied to that overhead rate.

1656 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1657 BRIAN BUTLER: And you knew when that overhead rate got
1658 Fatter; more money would be disbursed from the State of
1659 Michigan to SSI.

1660 MR. ADAM BALL: I understand how that process work yes.

1661 BRIAN BUTLER: You understand -- you also understand that
1662 that's what happened correct?

1663 MR. ADAM BALL: Yes.

1664 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1665 MR. ADAM BALL: I would say that companies are established
1666 for a lot more reasons than just being shell companies though.
1667 I mean there's liability reasons. There's -- there's a lot of
1668 other reasons to have subsidiary counter- companies, you know,
1669 whether it's insurance or whatever.

1670 BRIAN BUTLER: Yes. But we -- why -- but you billed for
1671 expenses that didn't occur.

1672 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Any of the reasons you're
1673 throwing out for -- like other reasons to create
1674 subsidiaries/shell companies, I don't think there's ever a
1675 legitimate reason to create a shell company, but none of those
1676 fit the definition of Southfield IT --

1677 MR. ADAM BALL: Not Southfield IT Group.

1678 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- correct. Say that. Not
1679 Southfield IT Group?

1680 MR. ADAM BALL: Correct.

1681 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Correct.

1682 Brian Butler: So that's not why it happened.

1683 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So that's not why Southfield
1684 IT Group was created. I -- I think you're just kind of holding
1685 onto that -- hanging on to that as -- as maybe trying to
1686 minimize?

1687 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. I mean --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1688 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- But -- but at -- at the
1689 end of the day, like Brian said, Brian is tenacious and -- and -
1690 - and --

1691 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 1:46:53] this --

1692 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- he is going to --

1693 BRIAN BUTLER: -- I'm tenacious at figuring out figuring
out

1694 what happened. Like that's my job and I will figure that out.

1695 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and -- and --

1696 MR. ADAM BALL: I told these guys that National Elevations
1697 Certificate was started three or four years ago. It had
1698 nothing to do with the -- the DOT at all.

1699 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Mm-hm.

1700 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean that when we started it to capture
1701 elevation what we thought was going to be a boom market in
1702 Nationwide elevation certificates being done. We were with
Coleman
1703 Engineering at the time in the UP --

1704 BRIAN BUTLER: But it didn't pan out, right?

1705 MR. ADAM BALL: No. It wasn't lucrative. But we had -- I
1706 mean we had the company already set up and --

1707 BRIAN BUTLER: So who's idea was it then to be like well
1708 we've got this company. It's already set up. Let's go ahead
1709 and tweak it and make it a DBA?

1710 MR. ADAM BALL: Probably all of ours.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1711 BRIAN BUTLER: Did you guys have meetings where you talk
1712 about these things?

1713 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1714 BRIAN BUTLER: That was yes?

1715 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. Yes.

1716 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay. Um, and you said that we could use
1717 it, we could create invoices where we could make billings to
1718 this and that would attribute to the overhead?

1719 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know if we ever got that specific
1720 [inaudible 1:48:18] --

1721 BRIAN BUTLER: Everyone generally knew that it would help
1722 get more profits?

1723 MR. ADAM BALL: But the concept was that the rates
1724 [inaudible 1:48:29] consultant IT [inaudible] charge [inaudible
1725 1:48:32] and the State of Michigan data rates, you know, we
1726 figured that if the State of Michigan can charge themselves X
1727 number of dollars per a terabyte or for quadrabyte [sic] or
1728 gigabyte or whatever, it must be a legitimate -- legitimate
1729 charge. m e a n t , there'll got to be a charge for it, so --

1730 BRIAN BUTLER: -- Were all of your IT needs serviced by,
1731 um, Network Services Group?

1732 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so. And when you say all of
1733 yours, you mean SSI?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1734 BRIAN BUTLER: Yes.

1735 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, I mean they -- they kind of were the
1736 backbone for a lot of this stuff, but Andy -- back in the day
1737 Andy was heavily involved in --

1738 BRIAN BUTLER: -- But they weren't -- were they 95%?

1739 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so. I mean Andy was so --
1740 was so cheap, we'd use them the bare minimum, you know, I mean.

1741 BRIAN BUTLER: Mm-hm. So that's the problem, is like,
1742 the cost to acquire the the servers that you used were well,
1743 it wasn't to minimus. I'll give it \$10,000, \$20,000,
1744 \$30,000?

1745

1746 You know I -- I don't have that number in front of me, but what
1747 you billed was -- billed for that, the invoice
1748 that you gave the State of Michigan, do you know what it was?

1749 MR. ADAM BALL: I -- I don't. [inaudible 1:50:00] --

1750 BRIAN BUTLER: -- Do you think it was consistent with
1751 that?

1752 MR. ADAM BALL: Probably not with that.

1753 BRIAN BUTLER: What do you think that number was?

1754 MR. ADAM BALL: It was consistent with, uh, DTMB rates or
1755 whatever. I mean.

1756 BRIAN BUTLER: Are you sorry for what you've done?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1757 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah. I feel sick to my stomach right now.

1758 BRIAN BUTLER: Are you sick to your stomach because you
1759 got caught or are you sick to your stomach because you're sorry?

1760 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm -- I'm -- I'm sorry.

1761 BRIAN BUTLER: And what are you sorry for? A -- again
1762 I'm picture person. I want the facts and right now I'm kind of
1763 on the fence as far as like what kind of person you are. Um, I
1764 really do think that you're a good person, but -- and you want
1765 to try to tell me the story this is really all okay?

1766 MR. ADAM BALL: It's not okay.

1767 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Because you billed for
1768 storage capacity you -- you don't have?

1769 MR. ADAM BALL: Right.

1770 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: It may have been the rate
1771 that the State of Michigan bills itself or it -- but it -- it's
1772 total bulls**t. You don't have the storage. And the money you
1773 did spend on -- on the -- on -- for storage, like Brian said,
1774 he's being generous. Thirty grand. S**t, we'll give you 50
1775 grand. Let's give you a hundred grand. That's still -- you're
1776 way, way, way, way, way, way, way, way overbilled that and you know
1777 you did. Correct?

1778 MR. ADAM BALL: I do.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1779 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You knew. Tony Thelen knew.

1780 Jeff Bartlett knew. Brian Bartlett knew. And Adam or, um --

1781 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Andy. --

1782 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Andy. Excuse me,

1783 Semenchuk knew. Correct?

1784 MR. ADAM BALL: I would say that's correct.

1785 BRIAN BUTLER: It sounds like this wasn't, there wasn't a
1786 ring leader right? No one person was directing it. You guys were
1787 kind of all marching together on this, huh?

1788 MR. ADAM BALL: It was a five-headed monster. Yeah.

1789

1790 MR. ADAM BALL: I mean, we worked with out, you know, -- we
talked about too,

1791 but we worked with our accountant to, you know, try to us, you
1792 know, be as tax advantageous as we can, you know, so I mean

there's -- there's --

1793 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Well --

1794 MR. ADAM BALL: -- stuff like that.

1795 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well tax advantageous, yes,
1796 but also as savvy, advantageous of taking advantage of the, uh,
1797 reimbursement structure, was he involved in that?

1798 MR. ADAM BALL: When you say he --

1799 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- the -- the --

1800 MR. ADAM BALL: -- the accountant? --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1801 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- your -- your -- Grzesiak,
1802 your -- your accountant.

1803 MR. ADAM BALL: No.

1804 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: so he was not involved in the
1805 when the group of -- the five of you sat down and like you -- as
1806 you -- as -- using your words, the five -- this five-headed
1807 monster -- monster. It wasn't a six-headed monster? He wasn't
in
1808 --

1809 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Correct.

1810 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. It was the five of
1811 you.

1812 BRIAN BUTLER: I appreciate your honesty today. You know
1813 recognizing that what you did was wrong and that you did it to
1814 make -- to get money from the State of Michigan that you weren't
1815 entitled to, correct?

1816 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think we ever did it. That --

1817 BRIAN BUTLER: -- you didn't stop --

1818 MR. ADAM BALL: -- flagrantly or directly but I mean
1819 ultimately that's -- that was the result of the mechanism that
1820 had happened, Yeah.

1821 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay. That's honesty. Um, I'm not sure
1822 if these gentlemen have told you that this is not just here
1823 today and we're kind of throughout the state working on it so.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1824 MR. ADAM BALL: Sure.

1825 BRIAN BUTLER: And Sarah has been talked to. I think you
1826 guys covered all of that?

1827 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: We -- we -- we talked, uh,
1828 about Sarah's I guess employment was here, but Adam we -- we
1829 didn't get in -- in -- into the fact that when you left for work
1830 this morning we had a team, um, at your house. Okay. So
1831 contact was made with Sarah. Uh, Sarah is being interviewed.
1832 Um, a search of the house is -- is ongoing.

1833 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

1834 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. Um --

1835 BRIAN BUTLER: One of the things they found are some
1836 safes that are in the house. Um, I think are there two safes?

1837 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1838 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. And what's in those
1839 safes?

1840 MR. ADAM BALL: My -- the big safe has like my guns.

1841 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay.

1842 MR. ADAM BALL: And, um, some cash and the other safe is
1843 empty.

1844 BRIAN BUTLER: How much cash?

1845 MR. ADAM BALL: Like eight thousand bucks.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1846 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay. Um, would you be willing to give us
1847 the combination to those safes?

1848 MR. ADAM BALL: Sure.

1849 BRIAN BUTLER: Can we get a piece of paper here and we'll
1850 write them down?

1851 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

1852 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And Brian , uh, while you're
1853 writing this down here, uh, and write for went out to Steve, Adam
1854 understands too that -- that we're looking at phones and
1855 computers and things like that. Uh, he did ask if
1856 all possible, there are some personal like photos on his phone -
1857 -

1858 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Mm-hm.

1859 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: A couple of personal photos -
1860 - folders on his computer, um, again he -- he knows we have the
1861 right to take them, but he wants to try and cooperate too. If
1862 there's any way he can get anything personal back? I -- I
1863 didn't -- I told him I was not at all formalized with the
1864 **electronic** process along with the things we take, but, uh, just again, as
1865 we're having this exchange here, if there's any way he can get -
1866 -

July 24 and 25, 2019

1867 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I don't -- I don't think
1868 we're going to destroy anything. I mean he'll eventually get
1869 them back.

1870 BRIAN BUTLER: We're going to -- yeah, we're going to
1871 work expeditiously as possible. What happens is, we image
1872 the device and then we attempt to return the device to
1873 you as soon as possible. Um --

1874 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And -- and -- and that's what
1875 I wasn't aware of. Thank you. I didn't know what the
1876 process [inaudible 1:55:58].

1877 BRIAN BUTLER: Okay. So I -- I want to get back to the,
1878 um, gentlemen down there so they can do that.

1879 MR. ADAM BALL: What did they do with the kids and stuff
1880 when they stopped?

1881 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Uh, -- more than likely
1882 they were --

1883 BRIAN BUTLER: -- They're always professional right? And
1884 so I know the guys that were there and they are good-- good
1885 people and I know that they would be, um, professional in every
1886 regard.

1887 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah, they're letting them --
1888 they're -- they're at the house. I'm assuming they're letting
1889 the kids -- what do you got three kids?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1890 MR. ADAM BALL: Yep.

1891 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. They're -- they're
1892 probably in a room that -- they're probably playing. They --

1893 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Got cartoons on or something
1894 like that.

1895 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. Yeah, they're not and
1896 -- I mean Doug and I, we've been professional with you, correct?

1897 MR. ADAM BALL: Yes.

1898 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Good. Well the group that's
1899 with Sarah is as professional if not -- if not more than, uh,
1900 than Doug and I. So yeah, the kids are good. The kids are
1901 fine. Sarah's -- I'm -- I mean I'm guessing if it was my wife,
1902 she -- she'd be waiting -- chopping at the bit for me to roll
1903 back into the driveway to give me a what for, so you probably
1904 got that to look forward to tonight. Um, but, uh, other than
1905 that. It -- the kids -- the kids will be fine.

1906 BRIAN BUTLER: You'll get through this. I'll be honest
1907 with you. It'll -- it'll -- it'll suck for a while, you know,
1908 but I think taking the step forward is the best way for the,
1909 the least painful way and I think that's what you should start
1910 working towards as hard as you work on surveying. What time do
1911 you leave? Like 6:00 every morning. 6:30.

1912 MR. ADAM BALL: Were you in the Explorer this morning?

July 24 and 25, 2019

1913 BRIAN BUTLER: No.

1914 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: No, that was me. Did you --
1915 did you -- did you -- did you figure -- did you think maybe you
1916 were being followed?

1917 MR. ADAM BALL: Yes.

1918 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right, yeah. We weren't
1919 trying to be covert, but I -- but I -- and actually I was -- I
1920 thought it would be kind of yeah, I -- I -- I didn't know how
1921 much space to give you. I didn't -- I haven't been here -- not
1922 that it's a hard location to -- to find, but yeah, I -- I bumper
1923 locked you.

1924 BRIAN BUTLER: I guess to say to -- to keep it in
1925 perspective right. You work hard, um, you'll get through this.
1926 I think it's important to -- you know the best way to -- to
1927 try and heal a few years of lying is just start being truthful
1928 about stuff and the truth is kind of like -- when you have to
1929 lie and cover stuff up for so long, that wears on a person. And
1930 then -- when you can just talk about it, you're finally like
1931 whooooose. Um, so that's your next project, right. Talk about
1932 it with your wife, what happened. Be straightforward and start
1933 working to -- to move forward on this stuff. Okay.

1934 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

July 24 and 25, 2019

1935 BRIAN BUTLER: I'm going to, I have to go make some calls
1936 and stuff like that.

1937 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah, thanks for stopping in
1938 and yeah.

1939 BRIAN BUTLER: You want to chat for a bit.

1940 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

1941 BRIAN BUTLER: You need anything form me?

1942 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I - I don't think so other
1943 than, yeah, we'll just we're going to take the phone and the
1944 computers. So.

1945 BRIAN BUTLER: I really mean it. I like it it's good to
1946 meet
1947 you. I don't think you're a horrible person. I think you're a
1948 hardworking person who made a mistake and I think the five
1949 headed monster, almost a group thing, who just kind of started
1950 doing this together and maybe as group think, you didn't know
1951 we -- we weren't, no, I'll say it a different way. We didn't
1952 stop to think about how long it was. It just kind of happened,
1952 okay. All right.

1953 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Do they need us to, uh, sit
1954 tight or do we have to move at some point?

1955 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh, we'll move at some point
1956 here. I just we'll -- we'll finish up I think and then the next
1957 few minutes I think we'll -- I think we're pretty much, uh,

July 24 and 25, 2019

1958 we're pretty much done. Uh, any -- anything else that -- I mean
1959 you -- Brian was able to get you over -- over the hump and --
1960 and, um, is -- is -- is there anything that we've -- we've --
1961 that -- that we haven't covered that you know we eventually will
1962 uncover, and you want to get out in front of? I mean take a
1963 second and think about it. What -- the -- the way you answered
1964 that it leads me to believe there is. There's something else.
1965 And you're kind of shaking your head.

1966 MR. ADAM BALL: I been ashamed for the whole five years.

1967 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. That's -- that's good
1968 info. So this has been going on for about five years or longer?
1969 Or longer?

1970 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't -- I'm going to say. I don't know.

1971 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Well what -- what would make
1972 you ashamed for five years? And to me that's -- that's a good
1973 thing because that tells me you're a good person. People
1974 without a conscience, they don't give this a second thought, man.

1975 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know what to do.

1976 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And when I say well -- you
1977 asked me a question, what I don't know what you mean by this. I
1978 guess my -- to me what this encompass is the -- the scheme to,
1979 you know, inflate your overhead. To get inflated reimbursement
1980 rates from the State that -- that you weren't due. Is there --

July 24 and 25, 2019

1981 is there something else like? So the inflating the overhead has
1982 gone on for at least five years?

1983 MR. ADAM BALL: No. That's not what I'm saying here. I
1984 guess [inaudible 2:03:15] is like my involvement was management
1985 type decisions and stuff like that help you talk about it or
through things.

1986 Looking back out in the field, you know, they --

1987 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Gotcha.

1988 MR. ADAM BALL: -- just -- you're in charge of people.
1989 There's just a lot of -- a lot of headaches and I just regret
1990 the day I started getting involved in the management type0
1991 things and --

1992 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Okay.

1993 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well we just -- again we just
1994 want to -- if -- if there's anything we can do -- do -- like I
1995 said help you [inaudible 2:04:19] or get through things, we
1996 don't -- we don't [inaudible 2:04:20] with the -- if there's
1997 going to be an explorer on you 24/7 or anything or following
1998 you.

1999 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

2000 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Like we, you know, we want to
2001 do -- we want to do our job but we -- we don't want you, you
2002 know, if -- if you're being honest with us today, we don't want

2003 you to have to look over your shoulder.

July 24 and 25, 2019

2004 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. There's -- there's not
2005 going to be any of that Adam. I think, you know, we -- you were
2006 cooperative. You were -- you've been honest with us, uh, up to
2007 this point. Um, it took a while to get there, but -- but we got
2008 there, um, and I just -- before we go I want to kind of touch on
2009 the theme that -- that Brian kind of left with and things are
2010 going to suck for, you know, the immediate future, but your life
2011 isn't over, man. I mean you made a mistake. You can recover
2012 from this. You know if we leave -- when -- when we leave you're
2013 not going to do anything, right to harm yourself, okay.

2014 MR. ADAM BALL: No. I'm all right.

2015 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. I mean that's --
2016 that's -- that's my primary concern at this -- at this point
2017 right -- right now. I don't want you to do anything that's
2018 going to hurt yourself because you've got -- look at those --
2019 those three pictures behind you. All right. You've got to be
2020 strong for those kids. All right.

2021 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

2022 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So -- so we're -- you're okay
2023 right?

2024 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm good. I'm good.

2025 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right.

2026 MR. ADAM BALL: My wife's going to castrate me but --.

July 24 and 25, 2019

2027 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah, and mine would too.

2028 But you weather that storm. How long you guys been together?

2029 MR. ADAM BALL: 10 years.

2030 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You'll weather that storm. I

2031 mean -- but, um, but appreciate you're -- you speaking with us.

2032 And, uh --

2033 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm sorry you had to waste so much

2034 [inaudible 2:06:27].

2035 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: We --

2036 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Uh --

2037 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- you don't got to explain

2038 why [inaudible 2:06:34]. You steps down the path of saying

2039 let's get on the page versus, um, you know, versus

2040 trying to lie. Versus trying to, uh, like I said start another

2041 violation or anything like that.

2042 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. -- I mean that --

2043 MR. ADAM BALL: I just mean in general.

2044 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh gen -- oh sure, yeah. I

2045 know.

2046 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 2:06:59] year for --

2047 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah. Yeah, but --

2048 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- [inaudible 2:07:03] --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2049 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- the odds of you -- I mean
2050 would you had we shown up. I mean I think there -- we just --
2051 I think Brian had just shown up, I don't think it would have
2052 pushed you, you know, in the just -- you just needed a little
2053 nudge to get this off of your chest. So I -- no, don't --
2054 don't, uh,

2055 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Two years get the heck out of this place
2056 and go somewhere else.

2057 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And then just -- yeah, a
2058 tidal wave kind -- of kind of crusted before, uh, before you're
2059 able to get out, but like -- you've got a lot of life left in
2060 you. This isn't -- this isn't an insurmountable hurdle. It was
2061 just a bump in the road. How old are you?

2062 MR. ADAM BALL: 42.

2063 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 42. You're a young guy. Not
2064 old like me.

2065 MR. ADAM BALL: How old are you?

2066 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: 51.

2067 MR. ADAM BALL: All right.

2068 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. All right. All right
2069 Adam, we're -- we're going to get out of your hair, but we've
2070 got to take that phone from you right -- right now.

July 24 and 25, 2019

2071 MR. ADAM BALL: I've got to [inaudible 2:08:17] because I -
2072 - I can get literally 150 calls a day that are work related.

2073 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

2074 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't answer that dumb thing.

2075 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Who's your provider?

2076 Mr. Adam Ball : we'd shut down Verizon.

2077

2078 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And again I don't know the
2079 timeline of how fast they're going to be a phone back to you. A
2080 150 calls a day, you can't do without for a day, um, you -- I mean
2081 you ought to be able to go in there, off the shelf, and just get
2082 -- get another phone and just port the number straight over.
2083 Um, treat -- I mean treat this like the phone has been dropped
2084 and cracked or --

2085 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Just -- just from --

2086 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- [inaudible 2:08:55] --

2087 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- just from like a forensic
2088 standpoint --

2089 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Mm-hm.

2090 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Would there be any -- I mean
2091 he's got a new phone. He's got a new number, but could -- could
2092 he pull stuff off the phone that we have in our possession?

July 24 and 25, 2019

2093 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: No. What we'll, um, because
2094 what we'll -- what we'll do whenever we -- part of the process
2095 for when take care of, uh, uh, when we take devices like that,
2096 is we -- we put into airplane mode.

2097 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2098 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So that way they're not
2099 sending and receiving communications and that -- that's --
2100 that's to protect us from someone saying, hey, you made a bunch
2101 of phone calls on my phone right. Like so we -- we put in an
2102 inactive state for lack of a better term. Um, and then we --
2103 we make a copy of it and again for -- for legal purposes that
2104 way we can say this is as it was when we got it. We didn't --
2105 because I told you we're not taking over your phone account.
2106 Uh, if we were, there would have to be paperwork for that under
2107 different and under completely different circumstances. We
2108 don't want to answer any of your calls for you. Um, we, uh, we
2109 also get enough calls a day, not 150, but we're not going to
2110 answer it. We're not going to respond. We're not going to do
2111 anything like that, so that's what the airplane mode is.

2112 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. So -- so good. So he
2113 can get like you said, go to Verizon --

2114 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- Yeah. --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2115 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- pick up a -- get -- get a
2116 new phone with that -- with that number. They'll pull up the
2117 number.

2118 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: And it's like I said with
2119 the, you know, the same with the computer --

2120 MR. ADAM BALL: Mm-hm.

2121 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- we would, uh, we would --
2122 in -- in taking a computer we -- we're not taking over an email
2123 address. So you can set up another computer with that email
2124 address. Your phone can have your email address.

2125 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Just, um, can you, um, is
2126 there a password on the phone by chance?

2127 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

2128 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Can you write that down?

2129 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: That's good catch Steve --

2130 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And -- and --

2131 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- and that will make it way
2132 faster.

2133 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: And then there is a password
2134 on the computer?

2135 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think --

2136 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Okay. And then if you
2137 wouldn't mind, um, I mean you're right here. Can -- can we put

July 24 and 25, 2019

2138 that in airplane mode right now? And I -- and like Doug said he
2139 -- we don't want to speak on the turnaround time for imaging the
2140 phone and -- and getting this actual one with the pictures you
2141 want and whatnot back, but it's usually pretty good, Adam, a
2142 couple of weeks maybe. Um, but don't hold me that, but it could
2143 even be sooner.

2144 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: It should be good now.

2145 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay, we're in airplane mode?

2146 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Got the [inaudible 2:11:17]?

2147 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yep, right there. All right.

2148 Beautiful. Put that there. No password for the computer.

2149 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so.

2150 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

2151 MR. ADAM BALL: Um, about that -- can I just show you --

2152 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Sure. Sure.

2153 MR. ADAM BALL: -- you can get. I don't like

2154 - like I said I don't know when that thing was plugged in right

2155 there. This is like my personal stuff. Can I -- - can I make --

2156

2157 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Ohhh. --

2158 MR. ADAM BALL: -- a copy of it?

2159 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um --

2160 MR. ADAM BALL: Can you make a copy of it for me?

July 24 and 25, 2019

2161 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, I can -- do you know
2162 where the tech guys are around here? Cause I -- again it's not
2163 -- it's not my case. It's not my call.

2164 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2165 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Um, I -- I mean I have seen
2166 it done before. That -- I -- I can tell you that actually has
2167 happened, but I -- I don't want to mess up anybody's else's --

2168 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2169 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- [Inaudible 2:12:12] --

2170 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You want a feel -- you want
2171 to feel to try to find somebody to ask that --

2172 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah, if
you don't mind.

2173 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- real -- real quick and
2174 then, um, yeah.

2175 MR. ADAM BALL: [inaudible 2:12:22] for one second.

2176 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yep. Yep. Yeah, and then
2177 we'll -- we'll let you know. I mean -- I mean I believe you're
2178 shooting straight with us, it's just all, uh, personal stuff
2179 Adam, but -like -- like Doug said we don't want to screw
2180 anything up.

2181 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Do you have a blank thumb
2182 Drive? Or CD?

July 24 and 25, 2019

2183 Get a copy oof the thumb drive and then take the
2184 thumb drive back out.

2185 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2186 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I don't see much hassle as
2187 long as [inaudible 02:13:02]

2188 SPECIAL AGENT STEVE LARSON: If you don't have a blank
2189 thumb drive that's [inaudible 02:13:26]

2190 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH Yeah then, let's -- let's err
2191 on the conservative side of saying probably not. Um, so -- so
2192 yeah.

2193 SPECIAL AGENT STEVE LARSON: That [inaudible 2:13:42]
2194 software correct?

2195 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't think so. That's -- that's from my
2196 -- a guy at church got all of my, um, part of All Nations. It's
2197 got all of the bylaws and stuff on it.

2198 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

2199 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Well to the extent that it
2200 has nothing to do with the Southfield, SSI or anything like
2201 that, um, it isn't -- whenever the tech guy is coming through,
2202 it's [inaudible 2:14:02] to not take things that are not related
2203 --

2204 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Yeah. --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2205 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- because we don't have to
2206 make copies of them. Images of them and all of that kind of
2207 stuff okay. Um, who would I talk to as far as searching for
2208 when they come to [inaudible 2:14:16] and stuff?

2209 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Just -- just find somebody
2210 and ask somebody who looks like they're doing --

2211 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: I'm sure they don't we're
2212 still --

2213 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah. Yeah.

2214 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So I don't --

2215 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah, we're good. Who's
2216 deer -- on the -- mounted on the wall, that's a nice one.
2217 [inaudible 2:14:40]?

2218 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't know much about [inaudible
2219 2:14:43].

2220 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh don't you? Oh you said
2221 guns, so I thought maybe you were a sportsman or a hunter.

2222 MR. ADAM BALL: I think that's Jeff's or Brian's.

2223 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh nice.

2224 MR. ADAM BALL: I've dabbled in hunting as a kid, but never
2225 been fond of it.

2226 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh okay. I, uh, well, I
2227 guess like Doug, and I said we're not deeply involved in the

July 24 and 25, 2019

2228 case other than just helping out, but I did see a picture of
2229 your place off -- it is [REDACTED]?

2230 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

2231 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah. You've got like what
2232 like 15 acres there? That looks like a nice spot. Any -- any
2233 deer or anything that come through?

2234 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah, we'll see a deer coming through the
2235 field.

2236 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah, I bet. That looks --
2237 that looks like a nice set up. Nice house. Nice, uh, nice set
2238 up. Nice chunk of property. I live down [REDACTED] so.

2239 MR. ADAM BALL: That's how far?

2240 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um --

2241 MR. ADAM BALL: -- I've got some buddies, or I've got a
2242 buddy that lives, um --

2243 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: North of Tibb, uh,
2244 Tittabawassee 2:15:47], uh, you know where, uh, was it that --
2245 was it that Green Applebarn?

2246 MR. ADAM BALL: Yeah.

2247 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Leaman's Green Applebarn.
2248 Okay. That's like kind of the starting point and then I'm --
2249 I'm, uh, south of that like two miles.

2250 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

July 24 and 25, 2019

2251 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: That's my house. By, uh,
2252 like [REDACTED].

2253 MR. ADAM BALL: Yep. My buddy just built a house on [REDACTED]
2254 just north of the Apple place on the west side of the road
2255 there. Cobblestone built his house there.

2256 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh okay. Cobblestone. I --
2257 I transferred in. I -- I was -- my first office was Milwaukee.
2258 Second was -- I was on -- I raised my hand to go Alaska and then
2259 I -- I bounced to Michigan here. Um, but we didn't have the
2260 house built, but Cobblestone or Cobblestone or Cornerstone,
2261 whatever, Cobblestone was the builder. Yeah. Yeah.

2262 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So, um, they're moving fast.
2263 They said that you might actually have your whole computer back
2264 tomorrow. They're going to be --

2265 MR. ADAM BALL: -- Okay. --

2266 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- like onsite here today.
2267 All day --

2268 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2269 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- trying to run through and
2270 copy things. Um, so that -- that -- that -- the best case like
2271 I said is that at the end of the day, worse case, at least right
2272 now things being working with, or you'll have everything back
2273 tomorrow. Um, --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2274 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Same deal with the phone?

2275 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Mm-hm.

2276 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh boom. Look at that.

2277 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: They're just trying --

2278 they're just trying to copy what, you know, like I said what

2279 they need, and they've got multiple tools to do it so.

2280 MR. ADAM BALL: In the meantime, um, are we going to be

2281 able to email later today or --

2282 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Put --

2283 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 2:17:17] --

2284 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- let's just -- let's just

2285 assume stuff is shut down for today.

2286 MR. ADAM BALL: Okay.

2287 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You know that way, yeah, and

2288 I would appreciate it -- we're not going to babysit you. I'm --

2289 I'm not going to hover over your shoulder, but if you could

2290 just, you know, stay off the computer.

2291 MR. ADAM BALL: Cool. [inaudible 2:17:34] have everything

2292 in memory [inaudible 2:19:36].

2293 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: You don't know, actually

2294 it's better to just right where it's at. The guys will just

2295 come in and -- and see right where it's at. See the folder.

2296 See what they need --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2297 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah. --

2298 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- and go from there.

2299 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: So yeah. Yeah. But once
2300 everything is imaged I'm assuming that you could --

2301 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 2:17:54] four or five years
2302 ago. That's the one in Saginaw from 9 or 8, 7 years ago or
2303 something like that.

2304 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay. --

2305 MR. ADAM BALL: -- [inaudible 2:18:02} --

2306 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um, they'll sort it out but
2307 possibly.

2308 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Yeah, we're not making a call
2309 on it then, um, you can work. That -- that might help them the
2310 call if it doesn't work right.

2311 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yeah.

2312 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: So.

2313 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right. Well I think --
2314 do you have anything else?

2315 MR. ADAM BALL: I don't.

2316 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right.

2317 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: Are we -- do -- do we need to
2318 --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2319 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: -- Yeah, we'll touch base

2320 with --

2321 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- You want to [inaudible

2322 2:18:26] or you want me to?

2323 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You can. Yeah. I've got to

2324 find a washroom.

2325 MR. ADAM BALL: You're going to leave me alone but --

2326 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Oh yeah, I do. Yep.

2327 MR. ADAM BALL: There's a bathroom in the back.

2328 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Okay.

2329 MR. ADAM BALL: And there's two upfront.

2330 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: All right. Sounds good. Um,

2331 Adam, sorry we had to meet under these circumstances.

2332 MR. ADAM BALL: I'm sorry you had to come.

2333 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Um, just keep that in mind.

2334 You're -- you're this isn't the end of the world, all right.

2335 MR. ADAM BALL: All right.

2336 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: I know it doesn't feel like

2337 now. It's easy for me to say, but it's not.

2338 MR. ADAM BALL: What -- what do I do at this point here?

2339 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: You know --

2340 SPECIAL AGENT DOUGLAS SMITH: -- I'm going to get that for

2341 you. You want me to do that? Head -- heading out --

July 24 and 25, 2019

2342 SPECIAL AGENT STEVEN LARSON: Yep. Yep. Yep. Oops excuse

2343 me. Interview is ending at 10:25 a.m. Thursday, July 25.